

Appendix D

Cultural Resources Technical Report



Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Cultural Resources Technical Report

prepared for

California Water Service
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Executive Summary

California Water Service (Cal Water) retained Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) to prepare a cultural resources technical report for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (Undertaking or Project), located in the census-designated town of Kernville in Kern County, California. The Undertaking would involve the replacement of an existing raw water intake system, which diverts water from the north fork of Kern River to the Kernville Water Treatment Plant (WTP). Cal Water owns and operates the Kernville WTP and is the proponent for the Undertaking.

It is anticipated the Undertaking will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, this cultural resources technical report was prepared in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and its implementing regulation 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800, in consideration of the need for a USACE 404 permit and will also comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5 for historical resources and 21083.2 for archaeological resources, and applicable local guidelines and regulations. The USACE is the federal Lead Agency, and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA Lead Agency for the Undertaking.

The purpose of this report is to identify all cultural resources/historic properties within the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the Undertaking and to determine whether the Undertaking would result in a significant impact to an historical resource or unique archaeological resources under CEQA or an adverse effect to an historic property under Section 106 of the NHPA. The APE consists of an approximately 0.53-acre site, located along the western riverbank of the Kern River, approximately 100 feet northeast of the Sirretta Street and Kernville Road intersection and encompasses two parcels: Assessor's Parcel Numbers 082-030-06 and 082-030-05. The Undertaking involves the demolition/removal of an existing air tank and building, electrical panel boards and auxiliary/emergency pump and motor. The aforementioned structures do not exceed 50 years in age and therefore are not historic properties or historical resources. The Undertaking, as currently proposed, would not alter any buildings or structures other than those mentioned above. Moreover, the Undertaking would not alter the existing setting of the properties surrounding the APE. Therefore, the APE is limited to the areas of direct impact (ADI), including staging areas, access roads, and the boundaries of any known cultural resources that intersect the Undertaking's ADI and does not include an indirect APE.

This report includes the results of a California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search through the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC); a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF); outreach with NAHC-listed contacts and local historical groups; a review of historical maps and aerial imagery; background research, including in-depth review of geotechnical, archival, academic, and ethnographic information; an intensive-level pedestrian survey of the entire APE; an analysis of the sensitivity of the APE to contain archaeological resources; and management recommendations.

An initial CHRIS records search of the APE and a 1-mile search radius was completed at the SSJVIC on September 12, 2022, and a supplemental search with a 0.5-mile search radius was completed on May 13, 2024. The records searches identified 36 previously conducted cultural resource technical investigations within the records search area. None of these previous studies overlap or are immediately adjacent to the APE, which suggests the entirety of the APE has not been subject to any

previous archaeological investigations and/or pedestrian surveys. Additionally, the SSJVIC records indicate 12 previously recorded cultural resources are within the records search area. These resources consist of eight prehistoric archaeological sites and two historic buildings and/or structures, and one historic district. None of these previous resources were identified within the APE. The prehistoric archaeological resources are generally distributed along the Kern River to the east and west. The nearest prehistoric resource to the APE is located approximately 230 meters (755 feet) to the southeast of the APE and consists of a bedrock milling feature and one obsidian flake. The NAHC SLF search results were negative (received October 27, 2022) for known Native American heritage resources within the APE. Outreach letters were emailed or mailed via United States Postal Service certified mailing to all 14 NAHC-listed contacts on October 11, 2024, and follow-up correspondence was conducted on October 25, 2024, and October 28, 2024; no historic properties of religious and cultural significance were identified as a result of the responses received. A Rincon Archaeologist conducted a pedestrian survey of the entire APE on September 21, 2022. No new cultural resources were identified within the APE as a result of the pedestrian survey. As part of the process of identifying cultural resources in or near the APE, Rincon conducted outreach with local historical groups, including the Kern County Historical Society, Kern County Library, and Kern River Valley Historical Society via letters sent through United States Postal Service certified mailing and via email on August 30, 2022, and May 17, 2024. After a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties that may be affected by this Undertaking, the outreach did not result in any responses and no historic properties were identified in the APE or its vicinity.

The review of historical topographic maps and aerial images reveals the APE as undeveloped since at least 1955 through 1995. By 2014, development is shown within the APE to be consistent with present-day site conditions. The geotechnical report prepared for the Undertaking (Bajada Geosciences, Inc. 2023) details the results of subsurface exploratory trenching at one location within the APE. According to the geotechnical report, the APE is composed of Quaternary alluvium and marine deposits from the Pleistocene to Holocene age from surface to the maximum depths explored of approximately 10 feet below existing ground surface. Holocene alluvial fan and stream deposits have the potential to contain buried archaeological resources as these soils are contemporaneous with the documented period of prehistoric human habitation of the area and have potential to preserve cultural material in context, depending on the area-specific topographical setting. The geotechnical report states the materials encountered below 8 feet appeared to be intact alluvial sediments from the Kern River. Current design of the Undertaking involves a maximum depth of excavation for each component as follows: electrical platform (approximately 2 feet); flowmeter vault (approximately 7.3 feet); intake structure (approximately 7.7 feet); and pump vault (approximately 20.8 feet).

No known cultural resources or historic properties were identified within or immediately adjacent to the APE as a result of the CHRIS records search, the NAHC SLF search, background research, and pedestrian survey. Therefore, this study finds the Undertaking would result in a finding of “No Historic Properties Affected” under Section 106 of the NHPA.

Given the general sensitivity of the APE and proximity to the Kern River, there is potential for unknown intact subsurface archaeological resources to be encountered within undisturbed native alluvial soils during excavation below approximately 8 feet below ground surface within areas of previous development. It is recommended the environmental document include avoidance, minimization or mitigation measures such as worker environmental awareness training, discovery procedures for construction finds of archaeological materials and human remains, and retention of a qualified archaeologist and archaeological monitoring.

1 Introduction

California Water Service (Cal Water) retained Rincon Consultants Inc. (Rincon) to prepare a cultural resources technical report for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (Undertaking or Project) located in Kern County, California. This cultural resources technical report documents the results of a California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records search; Native American Heritage Commission's (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) search; outreach with local historical groups; a review of historical maps and aerial imagery; background research including in-depth review of geotechnical, archival, academic, and ethnographic information; and an intensive-level pedestrian survey.

This cultural resources technical report was prepared in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and its implementing regulation 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800, in consideration of the need for a USACE 404 permit, and in compliance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5 for historical resources and 21083.2 for archaeological resources and applicable local guidelines and regulations. The USACE is the federal Lead Agency, and the SWRCB is the CEQA Lead Agency for the Undertaking.

1.1 Location and Description of the Undertaking

1.1.1 Location

The Undertaking would be located on an approximately 0.53-acre site in the census-designated community of Kernville in Kern County, California and encompasses portions of Section 15 of Township 25 South, Range 33 East on the *Kernville, California* United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle (Figure 1). Specifically, the site is located along the western riverbank of the Kern River, approximately 100 feet northeast of the Sirretta Street and Kernville Road intersection and encompasses two parcels, including Assessor's Parcel Number 082-030-06 and 082-030-05 (Figure 2 and Figure 3).

Cal Water, the proponent for the Undertaking, is proposing to replace an existing raw water intake system, which diverts water from the north fork of Kern River to the Kernville Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and is depicted in Figure 4. The existing raw water intake system capacity has been limited due to operational constraints. Due to the limited operational capacity of the intake system, an auxiliary (i.e., emergency) raw water intake system was installed approximately 100 feet upriver of the primary intake system to provide additional water supply during the non-winter months and low-flow periods during the winter months.

Figure 1 Regional Location

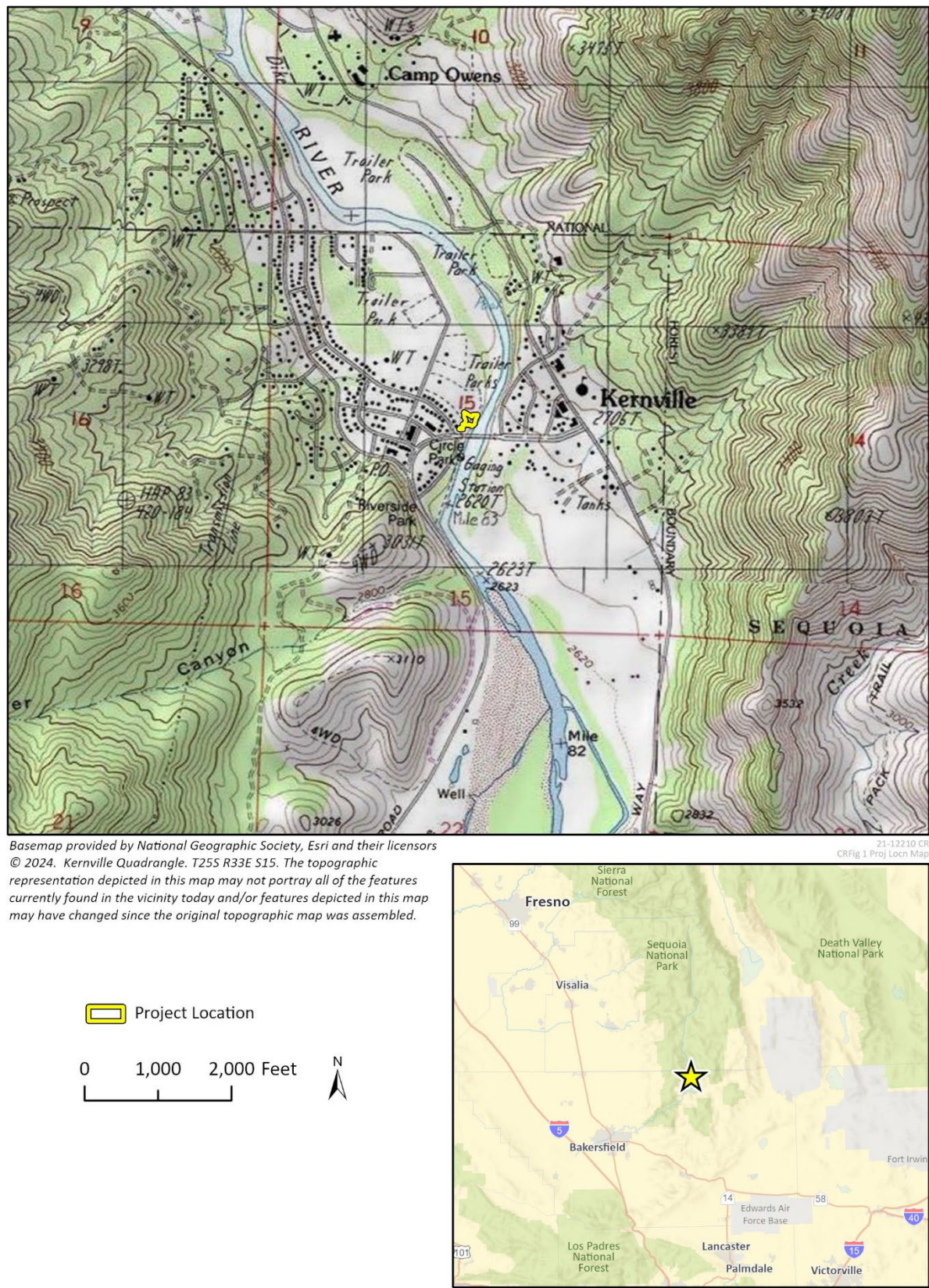


Figure 2 Area of Potential Effects



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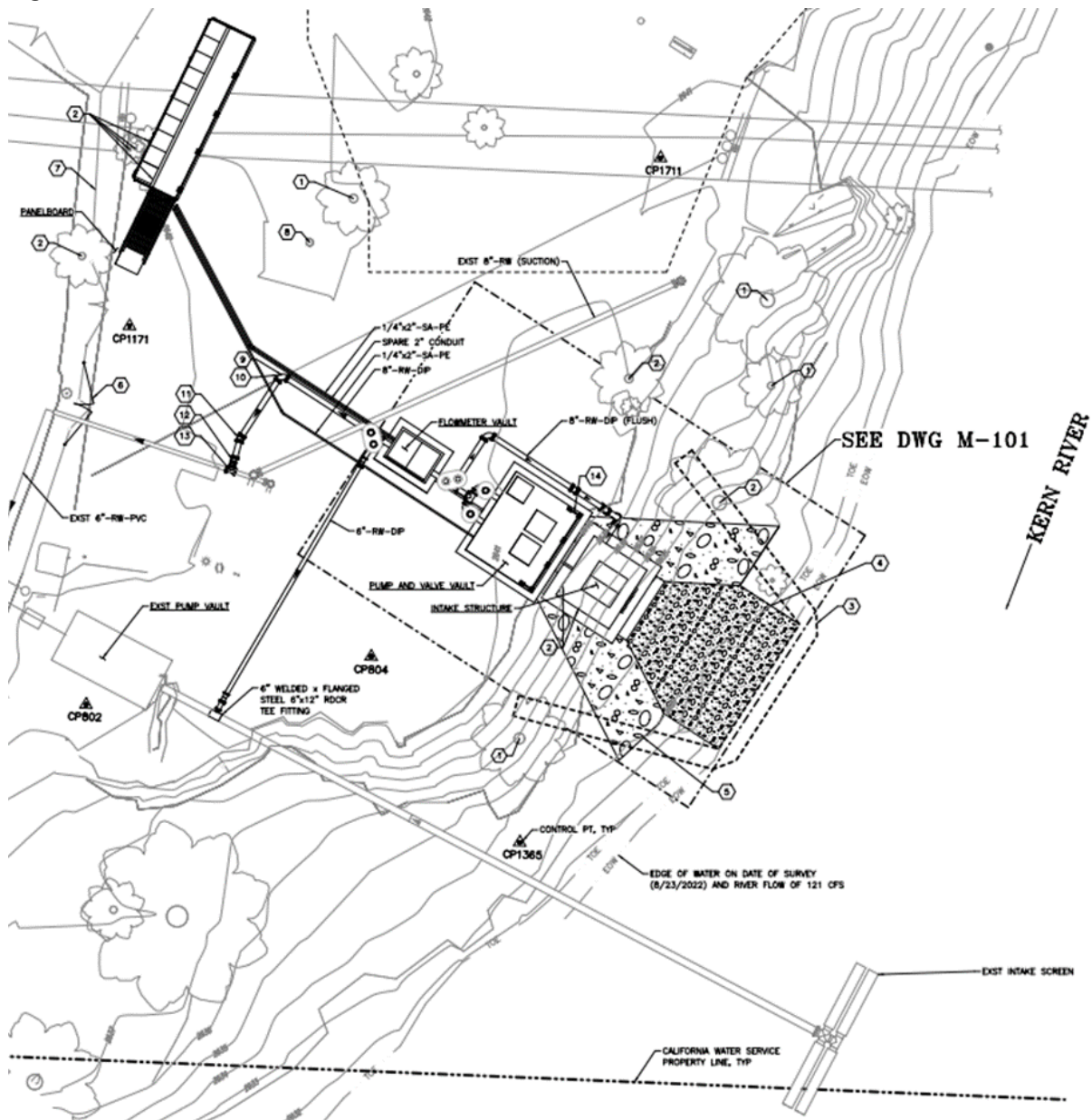
21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV v2

Figure 3 Area of Potential Effect – Zoomed Out



21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV v2

Figure 4 Site Plan



1.1.2 Proposed Intake System

Raw Water Intake Structure

To restore the Kern River water supply capacity, Cal Water is proposing to install a single, reliable 1,000 gallons per minute raw water intake system to replace the existing raw water intake system and auxiliary intake system. The intent of the proposed project is to provide a more reliable system that can meet the design demand of 1,000 gallons per minute. The proposed raw water intake system would be located downstream from the existing auxiliary intake system. The proposed raw water intake system would consist of an in-channel concrete intake structure, a self-cleaning cone screen, and two 50-horse-power (hp) submersible vertical turbine pumps (one primary pump and one backup pump).

Water from the Kern River would enter and flow through the concrete intake structure, through the self-cleaning cone screen, through a 12-inch pipe to the two parallel submersible vertical turbine pumps and tie in to the existing 6-inch raw water piping at the Kernville Station 003. Raw water is then conveyed to the Kernville WTP. The concrete intake structure would be a precast concrete structure approximately 5 feet in depth with sides 8 feet in width and 8 feet in length. The self-cleaning cone screen would be located in the intake structure to prevent fish and smaller debris from entering the turbine pumps. A stainless steel trash rack with 4-inch openings would be located at the inlet of the intake structure to prevent large debris from entering the intake structure and to protect the cone screen from damage.

Electrical Platform and Valve Vaults

A 211-square-foot electrical platform would be constructed at Kernville Station 003. The dimensions of the electrical platform would be as follows: approximately 8 feet in length by 26.5 feet in width, and 16 feet in height, including the electrical panels above the platform. The electrical equipment required to power the new intake system would be located on the electrical platform and elevated above the 100-year floodplain.

Two vaults (a pump vault and a flowmeter vault) would be constructed to house the pumps, valves, instrumentation (for example, a flowmeter and pressure gauge), and an in-line turbidimeter. Both vaults would be installed below existing grade. The pump vault consists of a lower portion that houses the pump cans and an upper portion that houses the pump motor and valves. The lower portion and the upper portion would be separate precast structures. The overall depth of the pump vault would be approximately 19 feet, 10 inches. A guard rail would be installed on the southeast side of the new pump vault. The dimensions of the 35 square foot flowmeter vault would be as follows: approximately 5 feet in length by 7 feet in width and 6.3 feet tall (4 inches in height above existing grade).

Existing and Auxiliary Intake Systems

The existing 125-square-foot pump house structure would be demolished as well as the adjacent air tank, piping, and existing electrical panels. See Figure 2 and Figure 3 for structures to be demolished.

The auxiliary intake system would operate during construction of the replacement intake system. However, the above ground auxiliary intake piping would also be demolished upon completion of the new intake structure (see Figure 2 and Figure 3). The existing below ground piping and the valve vault would remain in place.

The existing intake system would remain in place after construction as a backup intake system. However, this system is not expected to be used regularly after construction.

Fencing

The site currently does not include fencing. As part of the project, fencing would be provided around the electrical platform.

Lighting

Submersible lights controlled by a switch would be installed within the pump vault. Lighting would also be installed on the exterior of the electrical platform. No additional lighting would be installed.

River Bank Improvements

Rip rap would be placed 20 feet upstream and 20 feet downstream of the new intake structure to reduce riverbank erosion due to the new intake system. See Figure 4 for the proposed rip rap.

Restoration

Approximately 30 CY of reinforced, abandoned concrete blocks ranging in size from 1 to 3 CY each from previous bridge demolition would be removed from the Kern Riverbank, approximately 5 feet upstream from the existing auxiliary intake system.

Tree Removal

Thirteen on-site trees would be removed to accommodate the new water intake system. See Figure 2 and Figure 3 for the location of the trees to be removed.

Construction

Access

During construction, access to the APE would be provided via a private access road, which is accessible from Kernville Road, directly northeast of its intersection with Sirretta Street. The private access road is located on the parcel directly adjacent to the west of the site.

Staging

Construction staging would occur on the site west of the riverbank (refer to Figure 2 and Figure 3).

Construction Equipment

Construction equipment would consist of backhoes, compressors, cranes, dumpers, excavators, generators, loaders, pumps, and rollers.

Dewatering and Flow Diversion

Due to the relatively shallow depth of the river, the construction area would be dewatered with the use of a temporary cofferdam system. The temporary cofferdam system would be installed prior to excavation so dewatering activities can occur. The cofferdam system would keep the work area dry and prevent any sediment or construction debris from getting into the river. The cofferdam system would be a Portadam, super sack system or other similar approved method. Dewatering of the river would occur over approximately 2.5 months. Pile driving may be required if construction is extended to a time when water levels in the river are high.

In addition, due to high groundwater elevations on-site (9 feet below ground surface), groundwater dewatering would be required during construction of the underground facilities that would result in ground disturbing activities to depths greater than 9 feet below ground surface. Groundwater dewatering would occur over approximately 2.5 months. Dewatered groundwater would be discharged to the Kern River.

Grading and Soil Export

Construction would disturb approximately 7,100 square feet of soil. The maximum depth of excavation would vary by each component as follows: electrical platform (approximately 2 feet); flowmeter vault (approximately 7.3 feet); intake structure (approximately 7.7 feet); and pump vault (approximately 20.8 feet).

1.2 Area of Potential Effects

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. Determination of the APE is influenced by the 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]).

Cal Water staff have identified the following construction dates for the structures proposed for demolition/removal. The original site layout was dated 1996. The air tank and building were constructed shortly after that time (2011–2012). Construction of the existing electrical panel boards started in 2001. The auxiliary/emergency pump and motor were installed around 2011. Based on these dates of construction, these structures do not exceed 50 years in age and therefore are not historic properties and are not discussed further in this report.

The APE was developed by Rincon in coordination with Water Works Engineers (WWE) to identify all areas of direct impact, which covers approximately 0.53 acres (see Figure 2 and Figure 3). The horizontal extent of the Undertaking's areas of direct impact (ADI) includes an approximately 23,200-square-foot area (inclusive of construction staging and access area), of which, 7,100 square feet is subject to direct impact associated with construction of the proposed intake system and includes the following components (see Figure 4).

- installation of a new raw water intake system
- a new 211-square-foot electrical platform to power the new intake system
- demolition of the existing 125-square-foot pump house structure and adjacent air tank, piping, and electrical panels
- demolition of the existing auxiliary intake piping upon completion of the new intake structure (existing below ground piping and the valve vault would remain in place)
- installation of new fencing on the electrical platform
- installation of submersible lights within the pump vault and on the electrical platform
- placement of rip-rap 20 feet upstream and 20 feet downstream of the new intake structure
- removal of abandoned concrete blocks from the Kern Riverbank, approximately 5 feet upstream from the existing auxiliary intake system
- removal of 13 on-site trees to accommodate the new water intake system
- installation of a temporary cofferdam system

Construction would disturb approximately 7,100 square feet of soil. The maximum depth of excavation would vary by component as follows: electrical platform (approximately 2 feet); flowmeter vault (approximately 7.3 feet); intake structure (approximately 7.7 feet); and pump vault (approximately 20.8 feet). For management purposes, it is assumed the removal of existing trees would not exceed 3 feet below current grade.

The Undertaking, as currently proposed, would not alter any buildings or structures other than those mentioned above. Moreover, the Undertaking would not alter the existing setting of the properties surrounding the ADI. Therefore, the APE for this study is limited to the ADI, including staging areas, access roads, and the boundaries of any known cultural resources that intersect the APE.

1.3 Personnel

Rincon Senior Archaeologists Linda Kry, BA, Registered Archaeologist (RA), Theadora Fuerstenberg, MA, Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA), and Heather Blind, MA, RPA, are contributing authors and provided management oversight for this cultural resource technical report. Staff archaeologist Debbie Balam conducted the local historic group outreach and the Native American outreach for this Undertaking, performed the cultural resources records search and is a contributing author of this report. Archaeologist Sabdy Jimenez, BA, conducted the field survey and is a contributing author. Geographic Information Systems Analyst Allysen Valencia prepared the figures found in this report. Cultural Resources Principal Chris Duran, MA, RPA, reviewed this report for quality control. Mr. Duran meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for Prehistoric and Historic Archaeology (National Park Service [NPS] 1983). Resumes for qualified staff can be found in Appendix A.

2 Regulatory Setting

This section includes a discussion of the applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards governing cultural resources, which must be adhered to before and during implementation of the Undertaking.

2.1 Federal

2.1.1 The National Historic Preservation Act

It is anticipated the Undertaking will require a 404 permit from the USACE pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act.

Projects that involve federal funding or permitting (i.e., have a federal nexus) must comply with the provisions of the NHPA of 1966, as amended (16 United States Code [USC] 470f). The NHPA of 1966 established a federal program for the preservation of historic properties, including built environment, archaeological, and traditional cultural resources. Towards this end, the NHPA establishes both institutions and defined processes to direct federal agencies and support state and local governments in their historic preservation programs and activities. These institutions and processes include the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), State Historic Preservation Officers, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and the Section 106 review process.

2.1.2 Section 106 of the NHPA

Section 106 (16 USC 470f) requires federal agencies to account for the effects of their undertakings on historic properties, and to afford the ACHP a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings. *Historic properties* are defined as buildings, structures, districts, sites, or objects which are included in or eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Section 106 is implemented through 36 CFR Part 800, which outlines the process for historic preservation review, including participants, identification efforts, and the assessment and resolution of adverse effects. Per 36 CFR 800.16(y), a *federal undertaking* is defined as any project requiring or receiving a federal permit, license, approval, or funding. Federal agencies must take steps to determine if the undertaking would result in an adverse effect to historic properties and take measures to avoid or resolve those effects as feasible.

2.1.3 National Register of Historic Places

Authorized by Section 101 of the NHPA, the NRHP is the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. The NRHP recognizes the quality of significance in American, state, and local history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects. Per 36 CFR Part 60.4, a property is eligible for listing in the NRHP if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

Criterion A: Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

Criterion B: Is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past

Criterion C: Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of installation, 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

Criterion D: Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

In addition to meeting at least one of the above designation criteria, resources must also retain integrity. The NPS recognizes seven aspects or qualities that, considered together, define historic integrity. To retain integrity, a property must possess several of these seven qualities—if not all—defined in the following manner:

Location: The place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred

Design: The combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property

Setting: The physical environment of a historic property

Materials: The physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property

Workmanship: The physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory

Feeling: A property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time

Association: The direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property

Certain properties are generally considered ineligible for listing in the NRHP, including cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions, relocated structures, or commemorative properties. Additionally, a property must be at least 50 years of age to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The NPS states 50 years is the general estimate of the time needed to develop the necessary historical perspective to evaluated significance (NPS 1997: 41). Properties which are less than 50 years must be determined to have “exceptional importance” to be considered eligible for NRHP listing.

2.2 State

2.2.1 California Environmental Quality Act

California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21804.1 requires lead agencies determine if a project could have a significant impact on historical or unique archaeological resources. As defined in PRC Section 21084.1, a historical resource is a resource listed in, or determined eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), a resource included in a local register of historical resources or identified in a historical resources survey pursuant to PRC Section 5024.1(g), or any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that a lead agency determines to be historically significant. PRC Section 21084.1 also states resources meeting the above criteria are presumed to be historically or cultural significant unless the preponderance of evidence demonstrates otherwise. Resources listed in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR and are, therefore, historical resources under CEQA. Historical resources may include eligible built environment resources and archaeological resources of the precontact or historic periods.

State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c) provides further guidance on the consideration of archaeological resources. If an archaeological resource does not qualify as a historical resource, it may meet the definition of a “unique archaeological resource” as identified in PRC Section 21083.2. PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines a unique archaeological resource as an 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) it 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, or 3) is directly associated with a scientifically recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

If an archaeological resource does not qualify as a historical or unique archaeological resource, the impacts of a project on those resources will be less than significant and need not be considered further (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5[c][4]). *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5 also provides guidance for addressing the potential presence of human remains, including those discovered during the implementation of a project.

According to CEQA, an impact that results in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is considered a significant impact on the environment. A substantial adverse change could result from physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of the historical resource would be materially impaired (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5 [b][1]). *Material impairment* is defined as demolition or alteration in an adverse manner [of] those characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for inclusion in, the CRHR or a local register (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5[b][2][A]).

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 resources cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (PRC Section 21083.2[a][b]).

Section 15126.4 of the *State CEQA Guidelines* stipulates an environmental impact report shall describe feasible measures to minimize significant adverse impacts. In addition to being fully enforceable, mitigation measures must be completed within a defined time period and be roughly proportional to the impacts of a project. Generally, a project which is found to comply with the Secretary of the Interior’s *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* (Standards) is considered to be mitigated below a level of significance (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15126.4 [b][1]). For historical resources of an archaeological nature, lead agencies should also seek to avoid damaging effects where feasible. Preservation in place is the preferred manner to mitigate impacts to archaeological sites; however, data recovery through excavation may be the only option in certain instances (*State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15126.4[b][3]).

2.2.2 California Register of Historical Resources

The CRHR was established in 1992 and codified by PRC Sections 5024.1 and 4852. The CRHR is an authoritative listing and guide to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens in identifying the existing historical resources of the state and to indicate which resources deserve to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change (PRC 5024.1(a)). The criteria for eligibility for the CRHR are consistent with the NRHP criteria but have been modified

for state use in order to include a range of historical resources that better reflect the history of California (PRC 5024.1(b)). Unlike the NRHP, the CRHR does not have a defined age threshold for eligibility; rather, a resource may be eligible for the CRHR if it can be demonstrated sufficient time has passed to understand its historical or architectural significance (California Office of Historic Preservation [OHP] 2006). Furthermore, resources may still be eligible for listing in the CRHR even if they do not retain sufficient integrity for NRHP eligibility (OHP 2006). Generally, the OHP recommends resources over 45 years of age be recorded and evaluated for historical resources eligibility (OHP 1995: 2).

A property is eligible for listing in the CRHR if it meets one of more of the following criteria:

- Criterion 1:** Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage
- Criterion 2:** Is associated with the lives of persons important to our past
- Criterion 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
- Criterion 4:** Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

2.2.3 California Assembly Bill 52 of 2014

Assembly Bill (AB) 52 (Gatto 2014) established a new category of resources in CEQA called tribal cultural resources. Tribal cultures are defined as "sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe" that are either listed or eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources or a local register of historical resources. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21074. A lead agency may also determine that a resource qualifies as a tribal cultural resource if it meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources. (Id.) A historical resource or unique archaeological resource may also be classified as a tribal cultural resource. (Id.)

AB 52 also established a consultation process with all California tribes on the Native American Heritage Commission List that have requested such consultation, who may assist the lead agency in determining whether the project may adversely affect tribal cultural resources, and if so, how such effects may be avoided or mitigated. AB 52 requires formal notice to requesting California tribes of an opportunity to consult with the lead agency prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report if the tribe is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project and has requested formal notification. The requirements to consider tribal cultural resources and to consult with California tribes apply to CEQA projects for which the lead agency issues a notice of preparation or a notice of intent to adopt a negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration on or after July 1, 2015.

2.2.4 California Health and Safety Code

Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code states that in the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site, or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the County Coroner has determined if the remains are subject to the Coroner's authority. If the human remains are of Native American origin, the Coroner must notify the NAHC within 24 hours of this identification.

2.2.5 California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98

Section 5097.98 of the PRC states that the NAHC, upon notification of the discovery of Native American human remains pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, shall immediately notify those persons (i.e., the Most Likely Descendant [MLD]) that it believes to be descended from the deceased. With permission of the landowner or a designated representative, the MLD may inspect the remains and any associated cultural materials and make recommendations for treatment or disposition of the remains and associated grave goods. The MLD shall provide recommendations or preferences for treatment of the remains and associated cultural materials within 48 hours of being granted access to the site.

3 Natural and Cultural Setting

This section provides background information pertaining to the natural and cultural context of the APE. It places the APE in the broader natural environment that has sustained populations throughout history. This section also provides an overview of regional indigenous history, local ethnography, and post-contact history. This background information describes the distribution and type of cultural resources documented near the APE to inform the cultural resources sensitivity assessment and the context in which resources have been evaluated.

3.1 Natural Setting

The APE lies in the County of Kern at an approximate elevation of 809 meters (2,653 feet) above mean sea level. Some of the surrounding area retains its natural setting, with the APE located in between a residential area characterized by commercial and residential uses across the intersection of Kernville Road and Sirretta Street, residential uses to the west and northwest, the Kern River to the east, and the Camp Kernville recreational campground with associated office and parking lot to the north. The Riverview Lodge, a visitor-serving hotel, is located directly west of the driveway leading from Kernville Road to the APE. The Kern River was channelized in the mid-twentieth century. Vegetation near the APE consists of oak trees and bushes.

Geologically, the APE is underlain by "recent alluvium" nested in mostly Miocene granitic rocks of the Sierra Nevada based on the *Geologic Map of California: Bakersfield sheet* 1:250,000 Smith (1964). These deposits are described as alluvium, lake and marsh deposits in the Sierra Nevada probably Pleistocene age in part; coarse granitic fanglomerate along eastern base of Sierra Nevada (Smith 1964). Because of the episodic nature of alluvial sedimentation, the sudden burial of artifacts is possible, and alluvial soils have an increased likelihood of containing buried archaeological deposits (Waters 1992). Rivers not only have the ability to bury archaeological deposits under sediment, but they also have the ability to scour archaeological deposits away during high velocity events and the stream channel is braided in the vicinity of the Project site denoting relatively active movement of the channel over time.

One soil series has been documented in the APE, the Southlake Series (Bowman 1973). Approximately 65 percent of soils of the APE are Southlake stony sandy loam, which generally lay on alluvial fans and terraces and consist of alluvium derived from granitoid. A typical profile of Southlake Series soils features brown stony sandy loam from 0 to 6 inches, yellowish brown, very stony sandy clay from 6 to 15 inches, and brown very stony sandy clay loam from 15 to 60 inches (United States Department of Agriculture 2020).

3.2 Cultural Setting

3.2.1 Indigenous History

The APE lies in the Southern Sierra Nevada archaeological region (Moratto 1984), which covers the southern Sierra Nevada ranges and adjacent meadows and valleys extending from the eastern edge of present-day Fresno in the west to Mammoth Lakes in the east and extending southward to Isabella Lake. Pre-contact era chronology for the area was developed and explored in the 1980s (McGuire and Garfinkel 1980, Moratto 1984) and discussed more recently by Hull (2007) and

Garfinkel (2007). Southern Sierra Nevada archaeological chronology depends on subregion locality, and the APE lies specifically within the Kern Plateau. The chronology of the Kern Plateau is generally discussed in terms of Tübatulabal and Numic occupations and can be generally divided into five phases: Kennedy Phase (ca. 11,500 to 6500 before common era [BCE]), Lamont Phase (6500 to 1200 BCE), Canebrake Phase (1200 BCE to 600 common era [CE]), Sawtooth Phase (600 to 1300 CE), and the Chimney Phase (1300 CE to historic period) (Garfinkel 2007).

Kennedy Phase (ca. 11,500–6500 BCE)

The Kennedy Phase, typically referred to as the Paleoindian Phase in other regions of California, dates to the late Pleistocene and early Holocene and is represented largely by isolated points found in high altitudes (McGuire and Garfinkel 1980, Garfinkel 2007). As the first evidence of occupation of the Tübatulabal groups, few full sites within the interior of the Kern Plateau have been identified, suggesting during this period the area was used by nomadic groups on a sporadic basis. Sites along the Pacific Coast Trail consist of isolated projectile points or temporary camps for hunting large game (Garfinkel 2007).

This phase is characterized by large lanceolate concave base points of the Great Basin Concave Base Series, similar to the Humboldt Series. Early archaeological work relied on depositional position, but more recently, Obsidian Hydration dates have linked finds from a wide variety of contexts to this period, including El Portal on the Merced River, Long Valley, the Coso Range, Sherwin Summit, Bridgeport Valley, the Black Rock Desert, Tulare Lake, and the Tonopah area in Nevada. Kennedy Phase sites within the Kern Plateau include two Kennedy Meadows sites (CA-TUL-897 and CA-TUL-899), each having one concave basal point (Garfinkel 2007).

Lamont Phase (ca. 6500–1200 BCE)

The Lamont Phase dates from the early to the late Holocene and coincided with a dry period in the southwestern Great Basin. Few sites dating to the Lamont Phase have been identified. Archaeological sites reliably dated to the Lamont Phase are located on ridges, saddles and meadows and are associated with large game hunting with occasional plant exploitation and the gathering of pinyon nuts. This phase is characterized by various split-stem points of the Pinto and Little Lake Series. Dart points of this type are rare and represent brief occupations and occasional use of upland areas for big game hunting parties (Garfinkel 2007). Typical materials for these points include obsidian and basalt (Moratto 1984, Hull 2007)

Canebrake Phase (ca. 1200–600 CE)

The Canebrake Phase dates to the late Holocene and represents a significant change in subsistence, trade, and occupation patterns (Hull 2007, Garfinkel 2007). This phase is associated with the first continuous occupation within the region, and single and dual component loci dating the Canebrake Phase have been identified in a variety of settings, including Bear Mountain, Rock House Basin, and the Scodie Mountains. Many sites (CA-TUL-488N, CA-TUL-629, CA-TUL-621, CA-TUL-879A, etc.) show multi-phase components spanning up to 2,500 years from the Canebrake Phase to the Chimney Phase, demonstrating more permanent long-term occupation (Moratto 1984, Garfinkel 2007). While hunting was maintained as a subsistence activity, there was a shift to additional subsistence activities, such as foraging for plant resources like bulbs and seeds. This phase also marks the first appearance of milling tools used for processing plant materials, which always consisted of locally available granite (Moratto 1984, Garfinkel 2007).

Evidence of trans-Sierran trade, likely largely to the west, and an abundance of lithic production, particularly obsidian reduction, previously absent in earlier periods are reflected in the assemblages of Canebrake sites. CA-TUL-889A and CA-TUL-899 have large assemblages of debitage and obsidian bifaces from localized Coso obsidian quarries. Lithics characteristic of this time period include large, heavy-notched and variable stemmed Elko points; large, contracting stemmed Gypsum points; and concave basal Humboldt points (Garfinkel 2007).

Sawtooth Phase (ca. 600–1300 CE)

The Sawtooth Phase saw a dramatic increase in population reflected in high number of archaeological sites with more intense occupation as well as change in technology, possibly due to the migration of Numic speaking people who colonized the area and replaced the pre-Numic populations. Sites are more prominently featured in the upland areas rather than valley and meadow sites common in earlier phases (Hull 2007, Garfinkel 2007).

The Sawtooth Phase saw the transition from the atlatl and dart to the bow and arrow, characterized by Rose Spring and Eastgate projectile points. Rose Spring points, which are small and narrow triangular arrow points with a variety of stem forms, originated in Owens Valley at the edge of the Coso Range and are more abundant in the Southern Sierra Nevada. Eastgate points, which are wider triangular blade elements with deep basal notching and barbed shoulders, are more common in the western Great Basin but are still found within the Southern Sierra Ranges (Garfinkel 2007).

This phase also saw further reduction in an emphasis on hunting and an increased reliance on pinyon pine nuts and other plant materials. Assemblages reflect an increase in bedrock mortars as well as portable milling tools made of non-local materials such as sandstone and black scoria, which may have been imported with the Numic migration. Rock ring features are also abundant in Sawtooth Phase sites, which were likely used as rock-lined storage facilities for pinyon pine nuts, acorns, and other varieties (Garfinkel 2007). Early bead artifacts found in Sawtooth sites include steatite and serpentine disk beads, and more rarely Olivella spire-lopped beads (Moratto 1984).

Chimney Phase (ca. 1300 CE–Historic Period)

The Chimney Phase extends from the proto-historic to the historic period. This phase represents the highest intensity use and continuous occupation in the region. Complex sites are located near major rivers with prolific populations of Tübatulabal, Kawaiisu, and Panamint Shoshone tribes participating in long distance trade. This phase is characterized by small, triangular arrow points of the Cottonwood and Desert Side-Notched Series. Assemblages at the abundant archaeological sites within the Kern Plateau dating to the Chimney Phase increase in variety with high quantities of Owens Valley Brownware ceramics, imported soapstone beads, and glass trade beads. Glass trade beads are most common on or near the Sierra Nevada Crest and were used as offerings for the deceased (CA-KER-1298). Painted pictographs depicting more detailed representations of humans and animals, such as the big horn sheep, also commonly date to this phase, in contrast to earlier abstract carved petroglyphs associated with pre-Numic sites (Moratto 1984, Garfinkel et al. 2007).

3.2.2 Ethnographic Setting

The APE is located within the traditional territory of the Tübatulabal. The ethnographic Tübatulabal lived in the southern Sierra Nevada foothill region near the drainage area of the Kern and South Fork Kern Rivers (Voegelin 1938). The area is mostly mountainous, interspersed with small lakes and meadows. The ethnographic Tübatulabal were organized into three politically discrete bands,

including the Palagewan, Pahkanapil, and Bankalachi, with each band having had a high degree of internal unity and their own chief (Smith 1978). Though the three groups primarily lived apart, they often visited each other and intermarriages between them were commonly practiced.

Each band was comprised of a number of itinerant family groups who moved around seasonally most of the year. During the winter, bands would settle down in semipermanent “hamlets” situated lower down in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and in the Kern River Valley (Voegelin 1938, Smith 1978). These hamlets would have two to six households and each household consisted of a single biological bilateral family, often with one or two other relatives (Voegelin 1938, Smith 1978). Structure types varied by season and activity. In the winter, one family would be housed in a circular, enclosed, brush and mud shelter with a domed roof. Most hamlets also had a sweathouse and large oval structures made of oak branches, which were usually located near a natural pool or stream. In the summer months, the ethnographic Tübatulabal used temporary unwallled brush shade shelters supported by vertical and horizontal beams (Smith 1978).

Shamans were an important part of Tübatulabal life in ethnographic times. Both men and women could be shamans, though their powers varied. Males had both curative and witching powers, whereas women only had witching power (Voegelin 1938, Smith 1978). Shamans were born with their abilities and were assisted by supernatural guardian helpers. All misfortune and deaths (except those associated with war) were attributed to witchcraft. Curing shamans had the ability to heal and diagnose illness and held a high status. Their prestige grew according to the number of cures they successfully performed (Smith 1978).

The ethnographic Tübatulabal had a mixed economy focused on gathering, fishing, and hunting (Voegelin 1938, Smith 1978). Plant food resources in their territory were more diverse and abundant than in many other parts of California. Staple crops included acorns and pinyon pine nuts. Acorns were harvested from the ground, sun-dried, then stored in elevated granaries. Pinyon pine nuts were knocked from the trees, gathered, and placed on brush fires to open the shells. Once the nuts were removed from the shells, they were sun-dried and stored in circular, stone-lined pits. A variety of other wild foods, such as small seeds, roots, bulbs, berries, and tubers, were also gathered using seed beaters, digging sticks, and catch baskets. Fish were second only to acorns and piñon in economic importance (Voegelin 1938, Smith 1978). Most fishing was done on an individual basis, except in July, when communal fishing was more common. Large game was hunted using a sinew-backed bow and a variety of techniques. Smaller game was not actively hunted, with the exception of rabbits, and was instead caught using traps, snares, or spring-loaded nets. Rabbits were hunted communally (Smith 1978).

Tübatulabal material culture included coiled and twined baskets of split willow, tree yucca roots, and deer grass. Basket traps and saddles (after horses were introduced in the area) were woven from tule. Pottery, made by hand of local red clay, was also common. Pots were sun-dried and fired in an open fire until they turned a grayish black color (Voegelin 1938, Smith 1978). Other types of technology utilized by the ethnographic Tübatulabal included bow and arrow (sinew-backed and self-back bows, war arrows, and hunting arrows) nets, traps, snares, and various stone tools (projectile points, hafted and unhafted knives, and scrapers) and bone tools (such as awls). Barrel cactus spines were used for sewing and basketmaking. Digging sticks were used for gathering and both wooden and stone mortars and pestles were used for the pounding and grinding of seeds and other foods (Voegelin 1938, Smith 1978).

Present-day Tübatulabal primarily reside in Kern County near their ancestral territory and have an office in Lake Isabella. The Tribe is currently seeking federal recognition (O’Leary 2023).

3.2.3 Post-Contact Setting

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). Although Spanish, Russian, and British explorers visited the area for brief periods between 1529 and 1769, the Spanish Period in California begins with the establishment in 1769 of a settlement at San Diego and the founding of Mission San Diego de Alcalá, the first of 21 missions constructed between 1769 and 1823. Independence from Spain in 1821 marks the beginning of the Mexican Period, and the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, ending the Mexican-American War, signals the beginning of the American Period when California became a territory of the United States.

3.2.4 Spanish Period (1769 – 1822)

Spanish explorers made sailing expeditions along the coast of California between the mid-1500s and mid-1700s. Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo in 1542 led the first European expedition to observe what was known by the Spanish as Alta (upper) California. For more than 200 years, Cabrillo and other Spanish, Portuguese, British, and Russian explorers sailed the Alta California coast and made limited inland expeditions, but they did not establish permanent settlements (Bean 1968, Rolle 2003). The Spanish crown laid claim to Alta California based on the surveys conducted by Cabrillo and Vizcaíno (Bancroft 1885, Gumprecht 1999).

By the eighteenth century, the Spanish established military forts known as presidios, as well as missions and pueblos throughout Alta California. The 1769 overland expedition by Captain Gaspar de Portolá marks the beginning of California's Historic period, occurring just after the King of Spain installed the Franciscan Order to direct religious and colonization matters in assigned territories of the Americas. Portolá established the Presidio of San Diego as the first Spanish settlement in Alta California in 1769. Franciscan Father Junípero Serra also founded Mission San Diego de Alcalá that same year, the first of the 21 missions that would be established in Alta California by the Spanish and the Franciscan Order between 1769 and 1823 (Graffy 2010).

Construction of missions and associated presidios was a major emphasis during the Spanish Period in California to integrate the Native American population into Christianity and communal enterprise. Incentives were also provided to bring settlers to pueblos or towns. Three pueblos were established during the Spanish Period, only two of which were successful and remain as California cities: San José and Los Angeles (Graffy 2010).

3.2.5 Mexican Period (1822–1848)

Several factors kept growth within Alta California to a minimum, including the threat of foreign invasion, political dissatisfaction, and unrest among the indigenous population. After more than a decade of intermittent rebellion and warfare, New Spain 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).

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. Commonly, former soldiers and well-connected Mexican families were the recipients of these land grants, which now included the title to the land (Graffy 2010).

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.

3.2.6 American Period (1848–Present)

Regional History

The United States went to war with Mexico in 1846. The war ended in 1848 with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, 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 United States territories (Waugh 2003). Horticulture and livestock, based primarily on cattle as the currency and staple of the rancho system, continued to dominate the Southern California economy through 1850s. The discovery of gold in the northern part of the state led to the Gold Rush beginning 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.

A severe drought in the 1860s decimated cattle herds and drastically affected rancheros’ source of income. In addition, property boundaries that were loosely established during the Mexican era led to disputes with new incoming settlers, problems with squatters, and lawsuits. Rancheros often were encumbered by debt and the cost of legal fees to defend their property. As a result, much of the rancho lands were sold or otherwise acquired by Americans. Most of these ranchos were subdivided into agricultural parcels or towns (Dumke 1994).

Local History

Early American-period settlement in what is now Kern County centered on mining, though ranching and farming were also important economic pursuits. After the discovery of gold at Greenhorn Gulch in 1851 and Havilah in 1864, mining boomed along the Kern River which drove the establishment of several mountain communities.

One of these mountain communities was Kernville, then known as Whiskey Flat, which was established when Adam Hamilton constructed the first “saloon” in the area when he laid a plank across two whiskey barrels and called it “Whiskey Flat” (Gudde 1960; Capace 1999).

A town slowly developed around the saloon, and after the adjacent Big Blue mine struck it big in 1875, the town boomed with the expansion of additional stores, a brewery, three hotels, and several new businesses (Morgan 1914). After expansion, the town was renamed Kernville and became a trade center for not only miners but also cattle ranchers and an outfitting point for hunters and fisherman (Capace 1999). A stagecoach line was constructed through the mountains connecting the major mining towns of Kernville and Havilah (Morgan 1914). In the 1930s into the 1940s, the small-town, western charm of the town attracted movie directors, and several Old West films were filmed in Kernville (Pridgen 2022). An Old West set was constructed outside of town on Movie Street but was later removed during World War II.

The town took a turn for the worse in 1942 when the Big Blue Mine was closed down and several of the residents lost their jobs and again in 1948 when the USACE began planning the construction of Lake Isabella (Pridgen 2022). Kernville historically sat at the confluence of two rivers, the Kern River and the South Kern River. This location was identified for the construction for the Isabella Dam, which would create a reservoir, Lake Isabella, which would reduce flood risk in Bakersfield and the surrounding region and become the primary water source for water users throughout Kern County (USACE 2020). Before the creation of Lake Isabella, residents utilized private wells or local water companies' wells for drinking water, such as the Kernville-Easkine Creek Water Company or the Kernville Damsite Water Company (United States Department of Health Education and Welfare 1958 and 1964). Most of the town was demolished for the project, but residents moved some of the buildings in town from its original location to three miles north where the town is located today within a part of the former Burlando Ranch (USACE 2020; NETR Online 2024). By 1953, the original town was inundated by Lake Isabella (USACE 2020; NETR Online 2024).

The new Kernville developed around existing Sequoia National Park and Forest ranger stations and campgrounds. By the 1970s and 1980s, the town constructed a new elementary school, single-family residential communities, and local parks (NETR Online 2024). In the 1990s, the town expanded north along the west side of the Kern River. Today, the town is a thriving community, and water utilities are managed by the California Water Service Company which also manages water utilities in the neighboring communities of Lake Isabella and Wofford Heights.

4 Methods

This section presents the methods for each task completed during the preparation of this cultural resources technical report.

4.1 Background and Archival Research

4.1.1 Archival Research

Rincon completed additional background and archival research in September 2022 and May 2024. A variety of primary and secondary source materials were consulted. Sources included, but were not limited to, historical maps, aerial photographs, and written histories of the area. The following sources were utilized to contextualize previous development and land use within the APE and vicinity to determine previous ground disturbances, including the depths and nature of those previous disturbances, to help inform on the archaeological sensitivity of the APE, in addition to those noted in the References section of this report:

- Historical aerial photographs and topographic maps accessed via Nationwide Environmental Title Research, LLC (NETR) Online
- Draft Geotechnical Report, Kern River Intake Replacement Project Kern County, California prepared in January 2023 (Bajada Geosciences, Inc 2023)

4.1.2 California Historical Resources Information System Records Search

On September 12, 2022 (Records Search File No. 22-344) and May 13, 2024 (Records Search File No. 24212) Rincon received the CHRIS records search results from the SSJVIC. The SSJVIC is the official state repository for cultural resources records and reports for the county in which the APE is located. The records search helps to identify previously recorded cultural resources, as well as previously conducted cultural resources studies in the APE and for a 0.5-mile radius and 1-mile radius surrounding it. Rincon also reviewed the NRHP, the CRHR, the California Historical Landmarks list, and the Built Environment Resources Directory, as well as its predecessor the California State Historic Property Data File. Additionally, Rincon reviewed the Archaeological Determination of Eligibility list. Results of the records search, including maps, can be found in Appendix B of this cultural resources technical report.

4.1.3 Native American Coordination

Sacred Lands File Search

Rincon contacted the NAHC on August 30, 2022, to request a search of the SLF and a contact list of Native Americans culturally affiliated with the vicinity of the APE. Appendix C provides the outreach list provided by the NAHC and documentation of Rincon's outreach effort.

Native American Outreach

As part of the process of identifying the potential presence historic properties of religious and cultural significance in the APE or its vicinity, outreach with the 14 Native American individuals and/or Tribal organizations on the NAHC contact list was conducted to identify organizations likely to have knowledge of, or concerns with, historic properties in the area of the undertaking, or may have a demonstrated interest in the undertaking and thus participate as a consulting party (36 CFR Part 800.2(c)(5) and 800.4(a)(3)).

On October 11, 2024, outreach letters were emailed to the 14 Native American contacts included on the NAHC-provided contact list (Appendix C). The Native American outreach letters included a description of the undertaking and an associated map and requested contacts reach out if they have any information regarding historic properties or specific concerns regarding cultural resources in the APE or its vicinity. Native American contacts were requested to respond by October 25, 2024. Follow-up emails or phone calls to all NAHC-listed contacts were completed on October 18, 2024 and October 28, 2024. Documents related to the Native American outreach efforts are provided in Appendix D.

4.1.4 Local Historical Group Outreach

As part of the process of identifying cultural resources in or near the APE, Rincon conducted outreach with local historical groups, including the Kern County Historical Society, Kern County Library, and Kern River Valley Historical Society via a letter sent via United States Postal Service certified mailing and email on August 30, 2022, and May 17, 2024. The outreach included letters with a description and maps of the Undertaking, and a request for any information that they may have regarding historic properties in the APE. Documents related to the local historical group outreach efforts are provided in Appendix E.

4.2 Field Survey

Rincon Archaeologist Sabdy Jimenez conducted a pedestrian survey of the APE on September 21, 2022, employing transect intervals spaced no more than 10 meters apart, and oriented generally from east to west. Exposed ground surfaces were examined for artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools, ceramics, fire-affected rock), ecofacts (marine shell and bone), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, soil depressions, and features indicative of the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., standing exterior walls, postholes, foundations) or historic debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics). Ground disturbances such as burrows and drainages were also visually inspected. Survey accuracy was maintained using a handheld Global Positioning Satellite unit and a georeferenced map of the APE. Site characteristics and survey conditions were documented using field records and a digital camera. Copies of the survey notes and digital photographs are maintained at the Rincon Fresno office.

5 Findings

5.1 Previous Cultural Resource Studies

The CHRIS records search and background research identified 36 cultural resources studies 1-mile from the APE (Appendix B). None of these previous studies address the APE or areas directly adjacent to the APE. This indicates the entirety (100 percent) of the APE has not been subject to any previous cultural investigations or surveys.

5.2 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources

The CHRIS records search and background research identified 11 cultural resources within a 1-mile search radius of the APE. Resources recorded in the search radius are listed in Table 1 below. These resources consist of eight prehistoric archaeological sites and two historic buildings and/or structures, and one historic district. None of these resources were identified within or adjacent to the APE. The prehistoric archaeological resources are generally distributed along the Kern River to the east and west, outside of the APE.

Table 1 Previously Recorded Resources within a 0.5-mile of the APE

Primary Number (P-15-)	Trinomial (CA-KER-)	Resource Type	Description	Recording Events	NRHP/CRHR Status
000444	000444	Prehistoric site	Pictograph in small rock shelter	1976 (Robert Schiffman, Stephen Andrews)	Not evaluated
000800	000800	Prehistoric site	Bedrock milling features	1977 (Eric Montizambert)	Not evaluated
002521	002521	Prehistoric site	Bedrock milling feature and manos or handstones	1989 (S. Jackson, B. Parr, CRF CSU Bakersfield)	Not evaluated
002522	002522	Prehistoric site	Bedrock milling feature and one obsidian flake	1989 (S. Jackson, K. Ptomey, CRF CSU Bakersfield)	Not evaluated
008455	-	Historic building	OHP Property Number - 073045; Resource Name - Neill House; OTIS Resource Number - 473910	1996 (Loreen Lomax, United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Sequoia National Forest, Cannell Meadow Ranger District); 2008 (Lori Wear, Krista Moreland, Cal Heritage); 2009 (Jennifer Howard, Christina Peterson, ECorp Consulting, Inc.)	No documentation provided relating to NRHP or CRHR status
012947	007305	Prehistoric site	Bedrock milling features, pictographs, obsidian lithic scatter, and milling tools	2008 (Lori Wear, Krista Moreland, Cal Heritage)	Not evaluated
014890	008315	Prehistoric site	Bedrock milling feature	2008 (Lori Wear, Krista Moreland, Cal Heritage)	Not evaluated
015173	-	Historic district	Camp Erwin Owen: Kern County Probation Department's juvenile probation camp; constructed in 1938	2008 (Douglas W. Dodd, Consulting Architectural Historian); 2012 (R.E. Parr, Cal Heritage)	California Historical Resource Status Code 6z: Found ineligible for NR, CR or Local designation through survey evaluation.
015248	008436	Prehistoric site	Bedrock milling feature	2009 (J. Howard, C. Peterson, ECorp Consulting, Inc.)	Not evaluated
015249	008437	Prehistoric site	Bedrock milling features and groundstone hand tools	2009 (J. Howard, C. Peterson, ECorp Consulting, Inc.)	Not evaluated

California Water Service
Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Primary Number (P-15-)	Trinomial (CA-KER-)	Resource Type	Description	Recording Events	NRHP/CRHR Status
018892	-	Historic building/structure	Kernville Work Center: 10.7-acre compound constructed in 1953 to relocate community of Kernville by the Army Corps of Engineers to construct Lake Isabella	2015 (T. Kelly, Sequoia National Forest, Kern River Ranger District)	Not evaluated

NRHP = National Register (NR) of Historic Places; CRHR = California Register (CR) of Historical Resources; APE = Area of Potential Effects

Source: SSJVIC September 2022 and May 2024

5.3 Native American Coordination

5.3.1 Sacred Lands File Search Results

The NAHC responded to Rincon's SLF request on October 27, 2022, stating the results of the SLF search were negative. See Appendix C for documentation.

5.3.2 Native American Outreach Results

To date, two responses have been received as a result of outreach efforts with all NAHC-listed contacts. No historic properties of religious and cultural significance were identified as a result of the responses received. Summaries of the responses received as a result of the Native American outreach efforts are briefly summarized below and are provided in Table 2. Documents related to the Tribal outreach efforts are also provided in Appendix D.

- On October 28, 2024, Chairperson Robert Robinson with the Kern Valley Indian Community mentioned via phone call that he had no concerns regarding the project impacting resources but did note that there may be inadvertent discoveries from material that could have washed down.
- On October 28, 2024, Ms. Kerri Vera with the Tule River Indian Tribe responded via email indicating that she did not have any information to share with Rincon regarding sensitive cultural resources or sites within the area. Ms. Vera did request that if resources are discovered during the project initiation to contact her.

5.4 Local Historical Group Outreach

No responses were received as a result of the letters or emails sent to each local historical groups on September 7, 2022. Follow-up efforts on this initial outreach were done via United States Postal Service certified mailing and email on May 17, 2024. After a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties that may be affected by this Undertaking, the outreach did not result in any responses and no historic properties were identified in the APE or its vicinity. Appendix E provides documentation of Rincon's outreach efforts with the local historical groups.

Table 2 Summary of Native American Outreach Efforts

Contact List	Date Letter Sent to Contact and Method	Follow up Date and Method	Comments/Concerns
Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley Danelle Gutierrez, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	10/11/2024 (Email)	10/18/2024: Follow up email sent 10/28/2024: Second follow up email sent	No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Big Pine Paiute Tribe of Owens Valley Sally Manning, Environmental Director	10/11/2024 (Email)	10/18/2024: Follow up email sent 10/28/2024: Second follow up email sent	No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley James Rambeau, Chairperson	10/11/2024 (Email) 10/14/2024 Sent via Certified Mail	10/18/2024: Left message with receptionist 10/28/2024: Left message with receptionist	10/11/2024: Undeliverable No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Chumash Council of Bakersfield Julio Quair, Chairperson	10/11/2024 (Email) 10/14/2024 Sent via Certified Mail	10/18/2024: Phone number disconnected	10/11/2024: Undeliverable No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Kern Valley Indian Community Brandy Kendricks	10/11/2024 (Email)	10/18/2024: Follow up email sent 10/28/2024: Second follow up email sent	See response from Chairperson Robinson
Kern Valley Indian Community Robert Robinson, Chairperson	10/11/2024 (Email)	10/18/2024: Follow up email sent 10/28/2024: Second follow up email sent	10/28/2024: Chairperson Robinson via phone call mentioned that he had no concerns regarding the project impacting resources but did note that there may be inadvertent discoveries from material that could have washed down.
Kern Valley Indian Community Julie Turner, Secretary	10/14/2024 Sent via Certified Mail	10/18/2024: Left message with receptionist	See response from Chairperson Robinson

Contact List	Date Letter Sent to Contact and Method	Follow up Date and Method	Comments/Concerns
Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians Delia Dominguez, Chairperson	10/11/2024 (Email)	10/18/2024: Follow up email sent 10/28/2024: Follow up email sent	No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Tejon Indian Tribe Colin Rambo	10/11/2024 (Email) 10/14/2024 Sent via Certified Mail	10/12/2024: Undeliverable 10/18/2024: Left message with automated system 10/28/2024: Left message with automated system	No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Tejon Indian Tribe Octavio Escobedo, Chairperson	10/11/2024 (Email) 10/14/2024 Sent via Certified Mail	10/12/2024: Undeliverable 10/18/2024: Left message with automated system 10/28/2024: Left message with automated system	No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Tubatulabals of Kern Valley Robert Gomez, Chairperson	10/14/2024 Sent via Certified Mail	10/18/2024: Phone number disconnected	Letter was returned twice. No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Tule River Indian Tribe Neil Peyron, Chairperson	10/11/2024 (Email)	10/18/2024: Follow up email sent 10/28/2024: Second follow up email sent	See Response from Kerri Vera
Tule River Indian Tribe Kerri Vera, Environmental Department	10/11/2024 (Email)	10/18/2024: Follow up email sent 10/28/2024: Second follow up email sent	Ms. Vera noted she did not have any information to share with Rincon, regarding sensitive cultural resources or sites within the area. She did request that if resources are discovered during project initiation to contact her.

Source: Native American Heritage Council Sacred Lands File Request 2024.

5.5 Aerial Imagery and Historical Topographic Maps Review

Rincon reviewed historic-period aeriels (NETR Online 2022a) and topographic maps (NETR Online 2022b) to identify potential cultural resources concerns in the APE. Only notable changes observed within the APE and immediate vicinity are summarized. Historical aeriels from 1955 to 1970 show the APE as undeveloped land north of Kern River with dirt roads to the north and the west (NETR Online 2022a). No buildings or structures are depicted in the APE in the 1960 and 1965 topographic maps; however, a small structure is depicted to the southeast and several structures are depicted to the west (NETR Online 2022b). From 1970 to 1983, aerial photographs show residential development to the north and west of the APE; these remain relatively unchanged through 2018 (NETR Online 2022a). Aerial imagery from 1983 to 1995 confirms the presence of residential development north and west of the APE, while the APE remains undeveloped (NETR Online 2022a). Aerial photographs from 2014 to 2020 confirm the APE in its current state with an air tank, a small adjacent structure, roads to the north and west, and remains undeveloped with Kern River to the south and east (NETR Online 2022a).

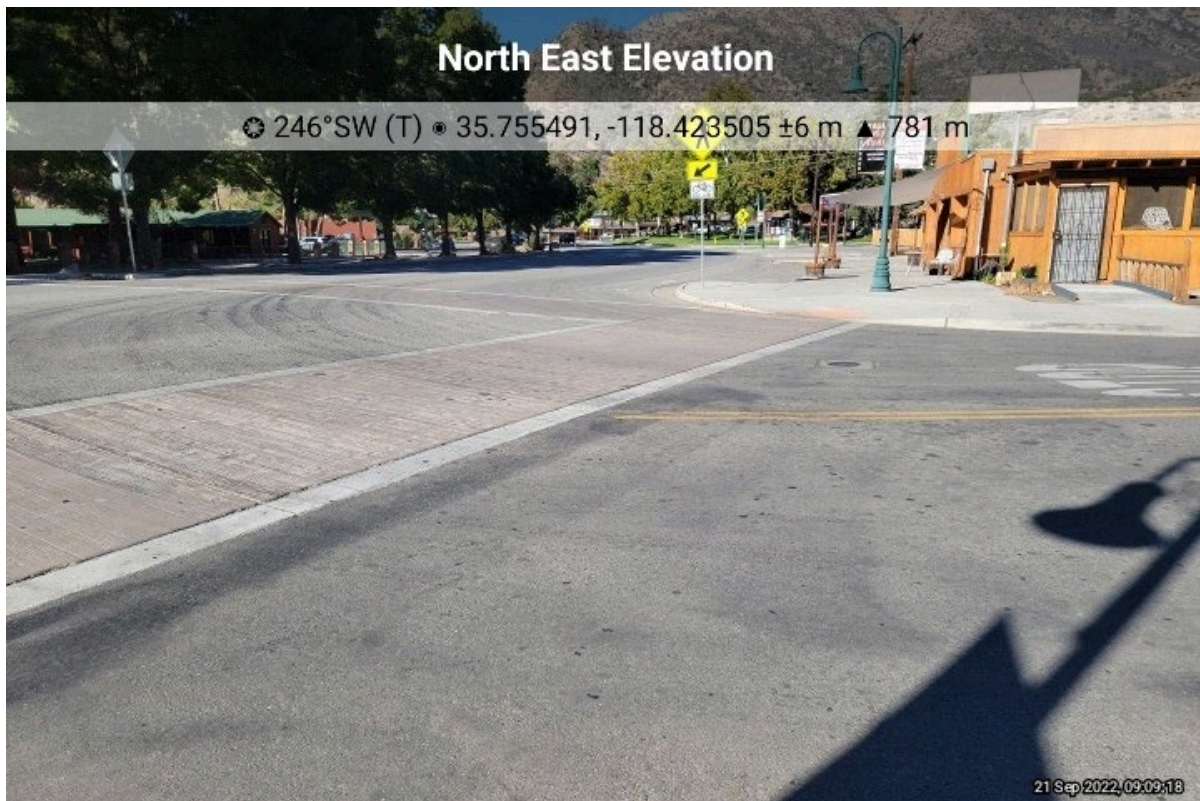
5.6 Summary of Previously Prepared Geotechnical Report

The geotechnical report prepared for the Undertaking (Bajada Geosciences, Inc. 2023) details the results of subsurface exploratory trenching at one location within the APE. According to the geotechnical report, the APE is composed of Quaternary alluvium and marine deposits from the Pleistocene to Holocene age from surface to the maximum depths explored of approximately 10 feet below existing ground surface. Holocene alluvial fan and stream deposits have the potential to contain buried archaeological resources as these soils are contemporaneous with the documented period of prehistoric human habitation of the area and have potential to preserve cultural material in context, depending on the area-specific topographical setting. The geotechnical report states the materials encountered below 8 feet appeared to be intact alluvial sediments from the Kern River.

5.7 Survey Results

Ground visibility is poor with approximately 30 percent exposure due to gravel and asphalt within the APE (Photographs 1–4). Vegetation observed consisted of grasses and trees on the east portion of the APE extending to the Kern River, which runs north to south along the eastern border of the APE (Photograph 5 and 6). Sediments consist of grayish brown sandy loam with round to subangular pebbles and river cobbles/boulders. Water from Kern River runs in and out of the existing water intake pump on the eastern end of the APE (Photograph 7 and 8). Visible ground was observed near the Kern River with large chunks of concrete and rebar rip-rap on the riverbank (Photograph 9). The Camp Kernville recreational campground and associated office and parking lot is located adjacent to the north of the APE (Photograph 10). All buildings noted above are outside of APE. No archaeological resources or built environment resources, outside of those proposed for demolition or removal and determined to be not historic in age, were identified within the APE during the field survey.

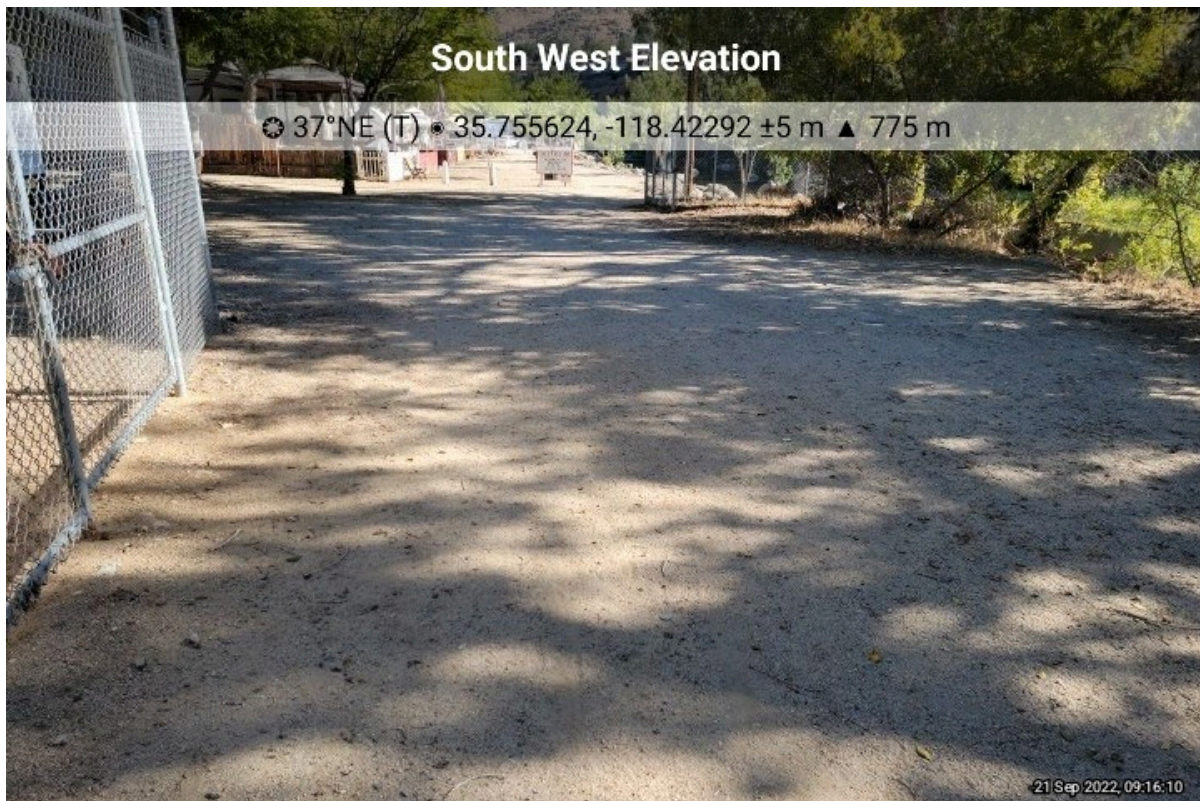
Photograph 1 APE, View of Paved Asphalt, Facing Northeast



Photograph 2 APE, View of Paved Asphalt, View West



Photograph 3 View of Paved Gravel, View Southwest



Photograph 4 View of Paved Gravel, View East



Photograph 5 **Vegetation on Eastern Portion of Ape View East**



Photograph 6 **Kern River Flowing on Eastern Border of APE, View Northeast**



Photograph 7 Water Intake Pump at East of Kern River, View Southeast



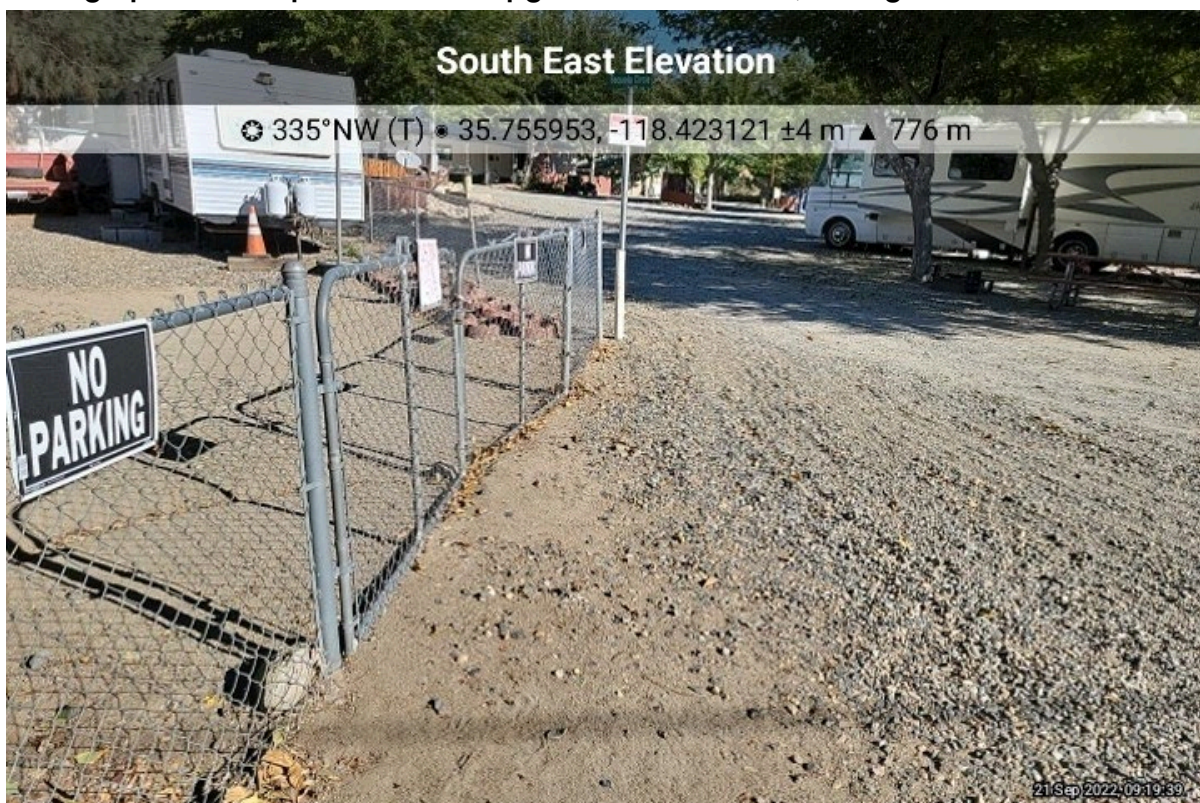
Photograph 8 Water Intake Pump Flowing into Kern River, Facing West



Photograph 9 Banks of Kern River with Concrete and Rebar, Facing South



Photograph 10 Camp Kernville Campground North of APE, Facing Southeast



6 Conclusions and Recommendations

The following sections present our recommended findings under Section 106 of the NHPA and CEQA.

The results of the CHRIS records search, the NAHC SLF search, outreach with NAHC-listed contacts and local historical groups, background research, and pedestrian survey did not identify any known cultural resources or historic properties within or immediately adjacent to the APE. However, the CHRIS records search results did not identify any previous studies that address the APE, which suggests the entirety (100 percent) of the APE has not been subject to any previous investigations or cultural surveys. A review of historical topographic maps and aerial images reveals the APE was undeveloped since at least 1955 through to 1995. By 2014, development within the APE is shown to be consistent with present-day site conditions. The CHRIS records search results also indicate 11 previously recorded cultural resources are within the 1-mile records search area. Of these, eight resources are prehistoric archaeological sites that are generally distributed along the Kern River to the east and west, and outside of the APE. The Kern River would have been a natural resource that indigenous and historic occupants of the area found hospitable to habitation and other activities. Environmental conditions within the APE and general vicinity include extensive alluvial activity with such alluvium potentially serving to preserve any indigenous or historic-period archaeological materials. A review of the geotechnical report that addresses the APE indicates the presence of Quaternary alluvium and marine deposits from the Pleistocene to Holocene age from surface to the maximum depths explored of approximately 10 feet below existing ground surface. Holocene alluvial fan and stream deposits have the potential to contain buried archaeological resources as these soils are contemporaneous with the documented period of prehistoric human habitation of the area and have potential to preserve cultural material in context, depending on the area-specific topographical setting. Current design of the Undertaking involves a maximum depth of excavation for each component as follows: electrical platform (approximately 2 feet); flowmeter vault (approximately 7.3 feet); intake structure (approximately 7.7 feet); and pump vault (approximately 20.8 feet). Additionally, it is assumed the removal of existing trees will not exceed 3 feet below current grade.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

The results of the CHRIS records search, the NAHC SLF search, outreach with local historical groups, background research, and pedestrian survey did not identify any known historic properties within or immediately adjacent to the APE. Therefore, this study finds the Undertaking would result in a finding of **“No Historic Properties Affected”** under Section 106 of the NHPA.

CEQA

The impact analysis included here is organized based on the cultural resources thresholds included in *State CEQA Guidelines* Appendix G: Environmental Checklist Form:

- A. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?
- B. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?

- C. Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?

Threshold A broadly refers to historical resources. To more clearly differentiate between archaeological and built environment resources, we have chosen to limit analysis under Threshold A to built environment resources. Archaeological resources, including those that may be considered historical resources pursuant to Section 15064.5 and those that may be considered unique archaeological resources pursuant to Section 21083.2, are considered under Threshold B.

Historical Built Environment Resources

This study did not result in the identification of any built environment resources that meet the criteria as an historical resources within the APE. Based on the results of this study, Rincon recommends a finding of ***no impact to historical resources***.

Historical and Unique Archaeological Resources

The results of the CHRIS records search, the NAHC SLF search, outreach with NAHC-listed contacts and local historical groups, background research, and pedestrian survey did not identify any historical resources or unique archaeological resources within or immediately adjacent to the APE.

However, given the proximity to the Kern River, there is potential for unknown intact subsurface archaeological resources to be encountered within undisturbed native alluvial soils during excavation below approximately 8 feet below ground surface within areas of previous development. It is recommended the environmental document include avoidance, minimization or mitigation measures such as worker environmental awareness training, discovery procedures for construction finds of archaeological materials and human remains, and retention of a qualified archaeologist and archaeological monitoring.

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Appendix A

Rincon Staff Resumes



Christopher A. Duran, RPA

PRINCIPAL/SENIOR ARCHAEOLOGIST

Christopher Duran is a Principal and Senior Archaeologist at Rincon Consultants, Inc. Mr. Duran has more than 15 years of professional experience in cultural resources management and exceeds the SOI's Professional Qualification Standards. In addition, he has worked throughout California for various federal, state, and local agencies and has worked on several projects for private sector clients including developers and utility companies. He has worked on hundreds of projects managing several millions of dollars in cultural resources investigations. Mr. Duran is an expert in cultural resources management and has worked on projects in compliance Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as they pertain to cultural resources. His research and professional experience include hunter-gatherer societies, Great Basin archaeology, Mojave Desert archaeology, California archaeology, GIS, quantitative analysis, ruins preservation, and cultural resources management. Mr. Duran has also led and completed projects at various levels including cultural resources monitoring, surveys, evaluations, and data recoveries. Mr. Duran has worked with agencies and Native American organizations throughout the State crafting cultural resources management strategies for the effective treatment of archaeological resources. Most recently, Mr. Duran served as the Principal Investigator for the Braverman Tentative Map Project in San Diego County that revealed a prehistoric village site with human remains within the project boundary. As the Principal Investigator, Mr. Duran was responsible for developing the Phase II evaluation of the village and the development of the Phase III data recovery and treatment plan. Mr. Duran worked closely with the lead agency and the Most Likely Descendent (MLD) to develop a treatment plan that would adequately mitigate the significant impacts from the proposed project. Rincon, under Mr. Duran as the PI completed the data recovery and reporting to the satisfaction of the lead agency and MLD.

EDUCATION

M.A., Anthropology, Northern Arizona University (2009)

B.S., Anthropology-Cultural Resources Management, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (2007)

AFFILIATIONS

Registered Professional Archaeologist (ID #415730)

Section 106 Compliance (2010)

Advanced Section 106 (2013)

Society for American Archaeology

Society for CA Archeology

EXPERIENCE

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
(2015 – present)

Leidos, Inc.
(2014 – 2015)

CH2M HILL
(2013 – 2014)

Epsilon Systems Solutions, Inc.
(2009 – 2013)

National Park Service
(2008)

SELECT PROJECT EXPERIENCE

- **Bellefield Solar Cultural Resources Study, Kern County California.** Mr. Duran served as the Principal Investigator for a large-scale cultural resources survey in support of a proposed solar farm facility. The survey encompassed over 5,000 acres of land and was surveyed under a short timeline. The study resulted in several newly identified cultural resources. Mr. Duran and his team developed meaningful mitigation measures for the reduction of significant impacts.
- **Aratina Solar Cultural Resources Study, Kern County, California.** Mr. Duran served as the Principal Investigator for a cultural resources study in support of a proposed solar farm and gen-tie lines. The project included both privately owned lands and lands administered by the US Air Force. The project resulted in the identification of several resources, including some resources potential eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Mr. Duran worked closely with the lead agency and tribal groups to develop meaningful mitigation measures to reduce significant impacts.



- **Gaskell West Phase I Cultural Resources Survey and Cultural Resources Monitoring.** Rincon consultants provided the CEQA documentation for a solar farm project in Kern County. Mr. Duran served as the Principal Investigator overseeing the cultural resources survey, Native American consultation, and project reporting. Mr. Duran also worked with the local lead agency to finalize project mitigation that later involved cultural resources monitoring.
- **RE Cinco Solar Cultural Resources Monitoring Project, Kern County, California.** Mr. Duran served as the Principal Investigator for cultural resources monitoring that included the recovery of several archaeological features during monitoring activities. Mr. Duran oversaw the development of treatment plans for monitoring finds and coordinated the recovery of cultural resources with the lead agency and Native American organizations.
- **Project Manager: DU Kennedy Stands Cultural Resources Survey, NAWS China Lake, Kern County, California (2010):** Fieldwork, authored and managed the preparation of a technical report to describe cultural resources in the project area. *Client: United States Navy.*
- **Field Director: Downs 60-Mile Fiber Optic Line Installation Cultural Resources Survey, Kern and San Bernardino Counties, California (2010):** Fieldwork, authored and managed the preparation of a technical report to describe cultural resources in the project area. *Client: Southern California Edison.*
- **Crew Chief: Blake's Stone Cultural Resources Survey, Kern County, California (2010):** Fieldwork, authored and managed the preparation of a technical report to describe cultural resources in the project area. *Client: Blake's Wholesale Stone Company.*
- **Project Manager: G-Zap Zero Cultural Resources Survey, NAWS China Lake, Kern County, California (2010):** Fieldwork, authored and managed the preparation of a technical report to describe cultural resources in the project area. *Client: United States Navy.*
- **Project Manager: China Lake Target Removal Cultural Resources Survey, NAWS China Lake, Kern County, California (2010):** Fieldwork, authored and managed the preparation of a technical report to describe cultural resources in the project area. *Client: United States Navy.*
- **Field Director: B4 Cultural Resources Survey, NAWS China Lake, Kern County, California (2010):** Fieldwork, authored and managed the preparation of a technical report to describe cultural resources in the project area. *Client: United States Navy*
- **Project Manager, SNORT Maintenance Cultural Resources Survey, NAWS, China Lake, Kern County, California (2010):** Fieldwork, authored and managed the preparation of a technical report to describe cultural resources in the project area. *Client: United States Navy.*
- **Crew Chief, Environmental Assessment of the Removal of Depleted Uranium at Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake, Kern County, California (2009):** Fieldwork, co-authored and managed the preparation of a technical report to describe cultural resources in the project area. *Client: United States Navy.*
- **Principal Investigator, Taft-Cuyama # 2 41518800 Six Pole Cultural Resources Survey, San Luis Obispo and Kern Counties, CA.** *Client: Pacific Gas & Electric*
- **Principal Investigator, San Joaquin Valley Habitat Conservation Plan Environmental Assessment, Santa Barbara County, San Luis Obispo County, Ventura County, Los Angeles County, Kern County, and Kings County, CA.** The project included the analysis and synthesis of cultural resources data across multiple counties to provide guidance and measures for a programmatic level management document. Mr. Duran served as principal investigator and coordinated cultural resources efforts for the document. *Client: Southern California Gas Company*





Linda Kry, RA

Senior Supervising Archaeologist & Senior Program Manager

Linda is an Archaeologist with over 17 years' experience in cultural resource management specializing in various aspects of cultural resources investigations within Southern and Central California. Experience includes: preparation of cultural proposals and supporting on larger multi-disciplinary proposals; conducting archival research; performing and leading small to large-scale intensive-level and reconnaissance surveys; analyzing, cataloging and processing artifact collections for curation; conducting ground-penetrating radar (GPR) investigations; assisting California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) lead agencies with Assembly Bill (AB) 52 and Senate Bill (SB) 18 notification and consultation process, including tribal consultation pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA); authoring technical reports pursuant to CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA; Coordination/interfaces with both local, state, and federal agencies, including National Park Service (NPS), Caltrans Districts 7 and 8, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), to name a few; Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) permit acquisitions; addressing cultural and tribal cultural resources sections of environmental documents (i.e. EIRs and MNDs); developing training materials and mentoring junior and mid-level staff to assist in meeting individualized professional goals, utilization targets, and overall succession planning for team members. Ms. Kry's extensive experience includes the management of cultural resources specialists in support of various aspects of cultural resources compliance, construction monitoring, archaeological testing and treatment, Phase III data recovery projects, and prehistoric and historical resource significance evaluations.

EDUCATION

BA, Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles

AA, Anthropology, Cerritos College

CERTIFICATIONS/ REGISTRATIONS

Registered Archaeologist
(RA) #4672

AFFILIATIONS

Society for California
Archaeology

Society for Historical
Archaeology

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

17

SELECT PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Contributing Author, Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles – William Mead Homes Project, City of Los Angeles

The project is subject to both CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA as it would be federally funded through the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The William Mead Homes was one of the first public housing communities in the City of Los Angeles and was constructed in 1941-1942. The project involved the demolition of all existing developments on the project site and the site's redevelopment with several apartment buildings ranging from one to seven stories in height. The property is considered a historical resource in accordance with CEQA and a historic property in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA. The demolition of the property would result in a substantial adverse change to a historical resource under CEQA and an adverse effect to a historic property under Section 106 of the NHPA, both of which required the development of measures to minimize these impacts. As part of the CEQA-compliant reporting, the project required an assessment to determine the archaeological sensitivity of the project site, including a determination of whether a segment of the zanja system (a historical water conveyance system), was present within the project site. Mitigation measures were developed to reduce potential project impacts to known and unknown archaeological resources and human remains to less-than-significant level. (February-March 2024)

Cultural Resources Specialist for Tribal Consultation Assistance, City of West Hollywood – 1000 North La Brea Project Environmental Impact Report, Los Angeles County

The project involved the demolition of an industrial cement manufacturing plant, an open parking lot, and an industrial building and the development of a new 35-story, approximately 426,000-square-foot mixed-use development with subterranean parking. The study was prepared in accordance with CEQA for historical and archaeological resources. The project was also subject to tribal consultation requirements pursuant to AB 52. Research was conducted to identify known cultural resources and to determine the potential to encounter intact subsurface archaeological resources and/or tribal cultural resources through a review of archival records, geotechnical investigations, historical maps and aerial photographs, and the results of AB 52 consultation between the City of West Hollywood (City), as lead agency, and California Native American tribe that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the project site that have requested to consult. An analysis of the cultural resources inventory was conducted to assist the City in their determination of whether a significant TCR (pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1) that is listed in the CRHR or local register of historical resources or resources identified by consulting tribes, supported by substantial evidence to be significant tribal cultural resources, exists within the project site. Mitigation measures were developed to reduce potential project impacts to known and unknown archaeological resources and human remains to less-than-significant. Additionally, mitigation measures for tribal cultural resources were developed based on the results of tribal consultation reviewed against the findings of the cultural resources assessment to reduce potential project-related impacts to known and unknown tribal cultural resources to less-than-significant. (February 2024-present)

Archaeological Lead, Los Angeles County of Public Works – Mulholland Highway at Mile Marker 3.22 Project, unincorporated County of Los Angeles, Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area

The purpose of the project was to repair the slope and asphalt concrete pavement shoulder of Mulholland Highway at Mile Marker 3.22, that were damaged during the February 2019 storm event. Served as Archaeological lead for a cultural resources study pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA. Project is on federally managed lands as such, required an acquisition of an ARPA permit and coordination with NPS for all fieldwork associated with the project. Role involved the management of all work deliverables, including the preparation and acquisition of an ARPA permit. (2021-2023)

Archaeological Lead, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power – Power Plant 1 and Power Plant 2 Transmission Line Conversion Project, Los Angeles County

Archaeological lead, Field Director, and monitoring coordinator for a project that involved the replacement and conversion of an existing 115 kilovolt (kV) double circuit transmission line that extends from Haskell Canyon Switching Station in the north to Olive Switching Station in the south. Responsibilities included management of crew for an Extended Phase I investigation, management oversight and reporting on all findings, and monitoring coordination for the duration of the construction activities. (2021)

Archaeological Lead, City of Compton – Compton Boulevard over Compton Creek and Wilmington Avenue over Compton Creek Bridge Replacement Projects, Los Angeles County

Archaeological lead for a cultural resources study pursuant to CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA and in conformance with Caltrans requirements. As archaeological lead, tasks included coordination for a cultural resources study, including AB 52 consultation support, and preparation of ASRs for each proposed project. (2019–2020)

Archaeological Lead, California Department of Water Resources – Castaic Underdrain Cleaning Investigation, Los Angeles County

Project involved cleaning and inspections of the existing 6-inch spillway underdrains at Castaic Dam. Role involved management of a Phase I cultural resource investigation and the preparation of a Cultural Resources Overview Report following the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) reporting format pursuant to CEQA. (2022)





Theadora Fuerstenberg, RPA

Senior Archaeologist

Ms. Fuerstenberg is a registered professional archaeologist with 20 years of consulting experience, specializing in Historic-era and Pre-contact era California and the Great Basin. She exceeds the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for prehistoric and historic archaeology and has served as a Principal Investigator for dozens of archaeological projects throughout California. Her principal professional abilities include supervising the identification and treatment of cultural resources and preparation of technical documents as required for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). She has extensive experience conducting archival and background research; directing large and complex archaeological survey and archaeological excavations; directing and performing laboratory analysis of pre-contact era and historic-era collections; and writing research designs, government agency-specific Programmatic Agreements (PAs), management plans, and reports for archaeological and architectural history cultural resource management projects.

Additionally, she functions as a tribal liaison and regularly facilitates tribal consultation under Section 106, California Assembly Bill 52 (AB52), and scoping consultation under California AB 168 for various agencies. This includes managing consultation meetings, conflict management, and developing strategies for closing consultation and remaining in compliance under specific state and federal nexuses. It also includes drafting agreement documents such as PAs, Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs), standard operating procedures, project-specific mitigation measures, and conditions of approval for agencies.

EDUCATION

MA, Cultural Resource Management, Sonoma State University

BA, Anthropology, University of Minnesota

CERTIFICATIONS/REGISTRATIONS

Register of Professional Archaeologists, (Registrant ID #17077)

Red Cross First Aid/AED/CPR Certified, (Expires November 2023)

AFFILIATIONS

Society for American Archaeology, (Active member since 2008)

Society for California Archaeology, (Member since 2007)

Women in Transportation Seminar, (Board member since 2017)

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

18

SELECT PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Principal Investigator, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) – NHPA Compliance for Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund, Alaska, Idaho, California, Oregon, and Washington

Extension of Staff and NHPA compliance expert for developing and drafting nine Programmatic Agreements (PAs) with five individual state grant recipients and four tribal commission/consortia recipients of pass-through grant funds from NMFS's Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund in Alaska, Idaho, California, Oregon and Washington. Duties involve identification and consultation with tribes, local, and federal agencies in each state and tribes whose ancestral boundaries span multiple states; managing and conducting consultation meetings with agencies and tribes, and tracking comments, consultation requests, and draft PA revisions with over three dozen consulting parties. (2021 to ongoing)

Principal Investigator, Nevada Irrigation District – Hemphill Diversion Project, Placer County

Principal Investigator responsible for cultural resource compliance with CEQA, NEPA, and Section 106 for NID's Hemphill Diversion Project. Duties included supervising results of cultural inventory and evaluations, and developing measures to mitigate effects of the Project on cultural resources and Tribal Cultural Resources (under CEQA) to a less than significant degree. The project included four alternatives, and more than dozen historic-period and pre-contact resources, and considered effects and developed appropriate mitigation under each alternative. (2020 to 2021)



PREVIOUS PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Principal Investigator, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) – NHPA Compliance for Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund, Alaska, Idaho, California, Oregon, and Washington

Extension of Staff and NHPA compliance expert for developing and drafting nine Programmatic Agreements (PAs) with five individual state grant recipients and four tribal commission/consortia recipients of pass-through grant funds from NMFS's Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund in Alaska, Idaho, California, Oregon and Washington. Duties involve identification and consultation with tribes, local, and federal agencies in each state and tribes whose ancestral boundaries span multiple states; managing and conducting consultation meetings with agencies and tribes, and tracking comments, consultation requests, and draft PA revisions with over three dozen consulting parties. (2021 to ongoing)

Principal Investigator, Nevada Irrigation District – Hemphill Diversion Project, Placer County

Principal Investigator responsible for cultural resource compliance with CEQA, NEPA, and Section 106 for NID's Hemphill Diversion Project. Duties included supervising results of cultural inventory and evaluations, and developing measures to mitigate effects of the Project on cultural resources and Tribal Cultural Resources (under CEQA) to a less than significant degree. The project included four alternatives, and more than dozen historic-period and pre-contact resources, and Ms. Fuerstenberg considered effects and developed appropriate mitigation under each alternative. Additionally, Ms. Fuerstenberg served as Tribal Liaison for NID and Native American tribes, and facilitated consultation under AB52 for the Project. (2020 to 2021)

Principal Investigator, California Department of General Services Real Estate Services Division (DGS RESD) – CAL FIRE Growlersberg Conservation Camp Replacement Project, El Dorado County

Principal Investigator responsible for cultural resource compliance with CEQA, NEPA, and Section 106 for the Growlersberg Conservation Camp Replacement Project. Prepared all cultural resource documents and authored Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources chapters of the CEQA environmental document for the Project, which entailed the replacement of CAL FIRE's 60-acre conservation camp with assistance from the California Department of General Services Real Estate Services Division (DGS RESD). Ms. Fuerstenberg work closely with architectural historians to evaluate the CAL FIRE complex for eligibility to the NRHP and CRHR. Additionally, Ms. Fuerstenberg facilitated AB52 consultation for the Project for RESD and CAL FIRE, writing and sending correspondence, tracking consultation timelines, and helping develop mitigation language for Tribal Cultural resources. (2020 to 2021)

Principal Investigator, California Department of General Services Real Estate Services Division (DGS RESD) – CAL FIRE Butte Fire Center Replacement Project, Butte County

Principal Investigator responsible for cultural resource compliance with CEQA, NEPA, and Section 106 for the Butte Fire Center Replacement Project. Prepared all cultural resource documents and authored Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources chapters of the CEQA environmental document for the Project, which entailed the replacement of CAL FIRE's 40-acre fire center with assistance from the California Department of General Services Real Estate Services Division (DGS RESD). Ms. Fuerstenberg work closely with architectural historians to evaluate the CAL FIRE center as a whole and the individual buildings for eligibility to the NRHP and CRHR. Additionally, Ms. Fuerstenberg facilitated AB52 consultation for the Project for RESD and CAL FIRE, writing and sending correspondence, tracking consultation timelines, and helping develop mitigation language for Tribal Cultural resources. (2020 to 2021)

PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

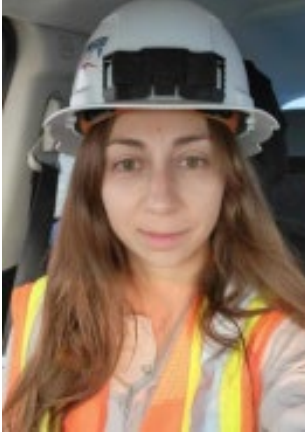
2014. Research Presentation: Beneath the Streets of Marysville – Presenter at the Northern California Data Sharing Meeting, Davis, California.

2015. Research Presentation: Marysville Forgotten – Presenter at the 2015 Society for California Archaeology, Redding, California.

2015. Symposium Chair and Organizer: New Perspectives in Historical Archaeology. Society for California Archaeology, Redding, California.

2015. Symposium: New Perspectives in Historical Archaeology – Symposium Director and Presenter of Historic Marysville Before and After the Goldrush. Society for California Archaeology annual meeting, Redding, California.





Sabdy Jimenez

Archaeologist

Ms. Jimenez is an Archaeologist at Rincon. Ms. Jimenez has one year of academic and professional experience as an archaeologist within the State of California. Ms. Jimenez conducted surveys, Cultural Monitoring, and soil testing. Ms. Jimenez has been a part of various projects, spanning from the Mojave Desert, Southern California, Central Valley and Sierra Nevada Mountain Range regions, as well as throughout the state. Ms. Jimenez's experience includes conducting cultural resource investigations in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act as they pertain to cultural resources. Her research and professional experience include California Archaeology, cultural resource management, Paleontology and pathophysiology.

EDUCATION

BA, Anthropology with concentration in Archaeology and Culture, California State University, Fresno

AA, Anthropology, College of the Sequoias

CERTIFICATIONS/ REGISTRATIONS

CPR & AED (Expires 8/9/2024)

Social and Behavioral Research Certificate (Expires 10/8/2023)

Conflicts of Interest Certificate (Expires 2/7/2025)

Social and Behavioral Research Responsible Conduct of Research Certificate (Expires 2/5/2025)

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

1 year 4 months

SELECT PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Archaeologist, California High-Speed Rail – Construction Package 1, North Extension Project, Fresno

Ms. Jimenez conducts archaeological surveys, coordinates with Native American Monitors, and provides construction monitoring for the California High-Speed Rail, Construction Package 1 North Extension Project. Ms. Jimenez conducts Paleontological Monitoring and field auditing for construction activities. (November 2021 to present)

Archaeologist, Dander Solar– Phase I Survey, Fresno County

Ms. Jimenez provided phase 1 survey at a proposed solar farm area in Fresno County for archaeological materials within the project area. Ms. Jimenez recorded prehistoric and historic archaeological materials found within the project. (September 2022)

Archaeologist, Kernville Raw Water Intake– Phase I Survey, Kern County

Ms. Jimenez provided phase 1 survey at a raw water intake facility in Kern County for archaeological materials within the project area. (September 2022)

Archaeologist, Heritage Ranch Water Resource Recovery Facility– Phase I Survey, Paso Robles, SLO County

Ms. Jimenez provided phase 1 survey at a proposed solar farm area in San Luis Obispo County for archaeological materials within the project area. (September 2022)

Archaeologist, Malaga BESS Retention Basin – Phase I Survey, Fresno County

Ms. Jimenez provided phase 1 survey at an energy storage yard for expansion of the Basin. Ms. Jimenez recorded prehistoric and historic archaeological materials found within the project. (September 2022)

Archaeologist, Vulcan Solar Farm – Monitoring, Bakersfield County

Ms. Jimenez provided environmental training and coordinated with Native American Monitors. (September 2022)



Archaeologist, Honby Tanks Pipeline– Phase I Survey, San Bernadino County

Ms. Jimenez provided phase 1 survey at a water intake facility in Sen Bernadino County for archaeological materials within the project area. (July 2022)

Archaeologist, SCE Grazing Management Support – Phase I Survey, Shaver Lake, Fresno County

Ms. Jimenez provided phase 1 survey at SCE property for archaeological materials within the project area. (July 2022)

Archaeologist, Lico Major Subdivision Project, Hollister

Ms. Jimenez provided paleontological construction monitoring for the Lico Major Subdivision Project as a new housing development. (April - July 2022)

Archaeologist, County Road Maintenance Yard Coalinga & Dunlap – Phase I Survey and XPI, Fresno County

Ms. Jimenez provided phase 1 survey and coordinated with Native American Monitor. Ms. Jimenez assisted with an extended phase 1 for archaeological materials at a maintenance yard for construction of offices within the yard and recorded prehistorical archaeological materials found within the project. (May 2022)

Archaeologist, Cal Trans – Alisal Fire Monitoring Project, Goleta, Santa Barbara

Ms. Jimenez provided Construction monitoring and coordinated with Native American Monitor. Ms. Jimenez monitored for archaeological materials at a recent burned area for reconstruction of fencing posts and recorded prehistorical archaeological materials found within the project. (March 2022)

ADDITIONAL PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Development

- Archaeologist, County of Monterey – Rancho Canada Sewer Pipeline Replacement Project, Monterey County
- Paleontologist, Lico Major Subdivision, Hollister – Housing Development Project
- Field Technician, County Maintenance Yard Coalinga & Dunlap – Phase 1 Survey and XPI, Fresno County

Transportation

- Archaeologist, California High-Speed Rail and Construction Monitoring Team – CP1-California High Speed Rail Project, Fresno County
- Archaeologist, Cal Trans and Construction Monitoring Team – Alisal Fire reconstruction Project, Santa Barbara County

Solar

- Field Technician, Signal Energy – Blythe Mesa II Solar, Blythe, Riverside County
- Field Technician, SB Energy, Athos Solar, Desert Center, Riverside County
- Field Technician, Blattner Energy, Slate Solar, Lemoore
- Field Technician, Sienna Solar, Lucerne Valley, San Bernadino County



Appendix B

California Historical Resources Information System Result

Appendix B has been redacted as part of this non-confidential report as it contains sensitive information regarding the location of cultural resources. Appendix B is available to Qualified Professionals upon request.

Appendix C

Sacred Lands File Results



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

October 27, 2022

Debbie Balam
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Via Email to: dbalam@rinconconsultants.com

CHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

SECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki

COMMISSIONER
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

COMMISSIONER
[Vacant]

COMMISSIONER
[Vacant]

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
**Raymond C.
Hitchcock**
Miwok/Nisenan

NAHC HEADQUARTERS
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov
NAHC.ca.gov

Re: California Water Service's Kernville Raw Water Intake Project, Kern County

Dear Ms. Balam:

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
Kern County
10/27/2022**

Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley

Danelle Gutierrez, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 700
Big Pine, CA, 93513
Phone: (760) 938 - 2003
Fax: (760) 938-2942
d.gutierrez@bigpinepaiute.org

Paiute-Shoshone

Kern Valley Indian Community

Julie Turner, Secretary
P.O. Box 1010
Lake Isabella, CA, 93240
Phone: (661) 340 - 0032

Kawaiisu
Tubatulabal
Koso

Big Pine Paiute Tribe of Owens Valley

Sally Manning, Environmental Director
P. O. Box 700
Big Pine, CA, 93513
Phone: (760) 938 - 2003
s.manning@bigpinepaiute.org

Paiute-Shoshone

Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians

Delia Dominguez, Chairperson
115 Radio Street
Bakersfield, CA, 93305
Phone: (626) 339 - 6785
2deedominguez@gmail.com

Kitanemuk
Southern Valley
Yokut

Tejon Indian Tribe

Colin Rambo,
P.O. Box 640
Arvin, CA, 93203
Phone: (661) 834 - 8566
colin.rambo@tejonindiantribe-nsn.gov

Kitanemuk

Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley

James Rambeau, Chairperson
P. O. Box 700
Big Pine, CA, 93513
Phone: (760) 938 - 2003
Fax: (760) 938-2942
j.rambeau@bigpinepaiute.org

Paiute-Shoshone

Tejon Indian Tribe

Octavio Escobedo, Chairperson
P.O. Box 640
Arvin, CA, 93203
Phone: (661) 834 - 8566
oescobedo@tejonindiantribe-nsn.gov

Kitanemuk

Chumash Council of Bakersfield

Julio Quair, Chairperson
729 Texas Street
Bakersfield, CA, 93307
Phone: (661) 322 - 0121
chumashtribe@sbcglobal.net

Chumash

Tubatulabals of Kern Valley

Robert Gomez, Chairperson
P.O. Box 226
Lake Isabella, CA, 93240
Phone: (760) 379 - 4590
Fax: (760) 379-4592

Tubatulabal

Kern Valley Indian Community

Brandy Kendricks,
30741 Foxridge Court
Tehachapi, CA, 93561
Phone: (661) 821 - 1733
krazykendricks@hotmail.com

Kawaiisu
Tubatulabal
Koso

Tule River Indian Tribe

Neil Peyron, Chairperson
P.O. Box 589
Porterville, CA, 93258
Phone: (559) 781 - 4271
Fax: (559) 781-4610
neil.peyron@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov

Yokut

Kern Valley Indian Community

Robert Robinson, Chairperson
P.O. Box 1010
Lake Isabella, CA, 93240
Phone: (760) 378 - 2915
bbutterbredt@gmail.com

Kawaiisu
Tubatulabal
Koso

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 California Water Service's Kernville Raw Water Intake Project, Kern County.

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Kern County
10/27/2022**

Tule River Indian Tribe

Kerri Vera, Environmental
Department
P. O. Box 589 Yokut
Porterville, CA, 93258
Phone: (559) 783 - 8892
Fax: (559) 783-8932
kerri.vera@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov

Tule River Indian Tribe

Joey Garfield, Tribal Archaeologist
P. O. Box 589 Yokut
Porterville, CA, 93258
Phone: (559) 783 - 8892
Fax: (559) 783-8932
joey.garfield@tulerivertribe-
nsn.gov

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 California Water Service's Kernville Raw Water Intake Project, Kern County.

Appendix D

Native American Outreach Documentation



Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project Outreach Tracking

Contact List	Date Letter Sent to Contact	Follow up Contact	Comments/Concerns
Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley Danelle Gutierrez, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer P.O. Box 700 Big Pine, CA, 93513 Phone: (760) 938 – 2003 Fax: (760) 938-2942 d.gutierrez@bigpinepaiute.org	10/11/2024	10/18/2024- follow up email sent 10/28/2024-2 nd follow up email sent	No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Big Pine Paiute Tribe of Owens Valley Sally Manning, Environmental Director P. O. Box 700 Big Pine, CA, 93513 Phone: (760) 938 – 2003 s.manning@bigpinepaiute.org	10/11/2024	10/18/2024- follow up email sent 10/28/2024-2 nd follow up email sent	No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley James Rambeau, Chairperson P. O. Box 700 Big Pine, CA, 93513 Phone: (760) 938 – 2003 Fax: (760) 938-2942 j.rambeau@bigpinepaiute.org	10/11/2024 10/14/2024-Sent via Certified Mail	10/18/2024- Left message with receptionist 10/28/2024- Left message with receptionist	10/11/2024: Undeliverable No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Chumash Council of Bakersfield Julio Quair, Chairperson 729 Texas Street Bakersfield, CA, 93307 Phone: (661) 322 – 0121 chumashtribe@sbcglobal.net	10/11/2024 10/14/2024-Sent via Certified Mail	10/18/2024- Phone number disconnected	10/11/2024: Undeliverable No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.



Contact List	Date Letter Sent to Contact	Follow up Contact	Comments/Concerns
Kern Valley Indian Community Brandy Kendricks, 30741 Foxridge Court Tehachapi, CA, 93561 Phone: (661) 821 – 1733 krazykendricks@hotmail.com	10/11/2024	10/18/2024- follow up email sent 10/28/2024-2 nd follow up email sent	See response from Chairperson Robinson
Kern Valley Indian Community Robert Robinson, Chairperson P.O. Box 1010 Lake Isabella, CA, 93240 Phone: (760) 378 – 2915 bbutterbredt@gmail.com	10/11/2024	10/18/2024- follow up email sent 10/28/2024-2 nd follow up email sent	10/28/2024: Chairperson Robinson via phone call mentioned that he had no concerns regarding the project impacting resources but did note that there may be inadvertent discoveries from material that could have washed down.
Kern Valley Indian Community Julie Turner, Secretary P.O. Box 1010 Lake Isabella, CA, 93240 Phone: (661) 340 - 0032	10/14/2024-Sent via Certified Mail	10/18/2024- Left message with receptionist	See response from Chairperson Robinson
Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians Delia Dominguez, Chairperson 115 Radio Street Bakersfield, CA, 93305 Phone: (626) 339 – 6785 2deedominguez@gmail.com	10/11/2024	10/18/2024- follow up email sent 10/28/2024-2 nd follow up email sent	No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Tejon Indian Tribe Colin Rambo P.O. Box 640 Arvin, CA, 93203 Phone: (661) 834 – 8566 colin.rambo@tejonindiantribensn.gov	10/11/2024 10/14/2024-Sent via Certified Mail	10/12: undeliverable 10/18/2024- Left message with automated system 10/28/2024- Left message with automated system	No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.



Contact List	Date Letter Sent to Contact	Follow up Contact	Comments/Concerns
Tejon Indian Tribe Octavio Escobedo, Chairperson P.O. Box 640 Arvin, CA, 93203 Phone: (661) 834 – 8566 oescobedo@tejonindiantribensn.gov	10/11/2024 10/14/2024-Sent via Certified Mail	10/12: undeliverable 10/18/2024- Left message with automated system 10/28/2024- Left message with automated system	No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Tubatulabals of Kern Valley Robert Gomez, Chairperson P.O. Box 226 Lake Isabella, CA, 93240 Phone: (760) 379 – 4590 Fax: (760) 379-4592	10/14/2024-Sent via Certified Mail	10/18/2024- Phone number disconnected	Letter was returned twice. No response has been received to date and the response period to provide comments or concerns regarding the Undertaking has elapsed.
Tule River Indian Tribe Neil Peyron, Chairperson P.O. Box 589 Porterville, CA, 93258 Phone: (559) 781 – 4271 Fax: (559) 781-4610 neil.peyron@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov	10/11/2024	10/18/2024- follow up email sent 10/28/2024-2 nd follow up email sent	See Response from Kerri Vera
Tule River Indian Tribe Kerri Vera, Environmental Department P. O. Box 589 Porterville, CA, 93258 Phone: (559) 783 – 8892 Fax: (559) 783-8932 kerri.vera@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov	10/11/2024	10/18/2024- follow up email sent 10/28/2024-2 nd follow up email sent	10/28/2024: Ms. Vera responded via email indicating that she did not have any information to share with Rincon regarding sensitive cultural resources or sites within the area. Ms. Vera did mention that if resources are discovered during the project initiation to contact her.



Contact List	Date Letter Sent to Contact	Follow up Contact	Comments/Concerns
Tule River Indian Tribe Joey Garfield, Tribal Archaeologist P. O. Box 589 Porterville, CA, 93258 Phone: (559) 783 – 8892 Fax: (559) 783-8932 joey.garfield@tulerivertribensn.gov	10/11/2024 10/14/2024-Sent via Certified Mail	10/12: undeliverable 10/18/2024- No voicemail messaging system 10/28/2024- No voicemail messaging system	See Response from Kerri Vera

Source: Native American Heritage Council Sacred Lands File Request 2024.



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024

Project No: 21-12210

Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians

Delia Dominguez, Chairperson

115 Radio Street

Bakersfield, CA, 93305

Phone: (626) 339 – 6785

2deedominguez@gmail.com

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Honorable Chairperson Dominguez:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

The Undertaking would involve the replacement of an existing raw water intake system, which diverts water from the north fork of Kern River to the Kernville Water Treatment Plant. Due to the limited operational capacity of the existing raw water intake system, an emergency raw water intake system was installed approximately 100 feet upriver of the primary intake system to provide additional water supply during the non-winter months and low-flow periods during the winter months. To restore the Kern River water supply capacity, California Water Service (Cal Water), the project proponent, is proposing to install a single, reliable raw water intake system to replace the existing raw water intake system and auxiliary intake system. The proposed raw water intake system would be located downstream from the existing auxiliary intake system. The proposed raw water intake system would consist of an in-channel concrete intake structure, a self-cleaning cone screen, and two submersible vertical turbine pumps (one primary pump and one backup pump). The intake structure would be approximately 7 feet deep, and approximately 10-feet by 9-feet in area.

The Undertaking would be located on an approximately 0.53-acre site in the census-designated community of Kernville in Kern County, California and encompasses portions of Section 15 of Township 25 South, Range 33 East on the *Kernville, California* United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle. Specifically, the site is located along the western riverbank of the Kern River, approximately 100 feet northeast of the Sirretta Street and Kernville Road intersection and encompasses two parcels, including Assessor's Parcel Number 082-030-06 and 082-030-05. See attached Project Location Map.



California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records searches were completed on September 12, 2022, and May 13, 2024. The CHRIS records search identified 11 cultural resources within a 0.5-mile search radius of the APE. Of these, eight are prehistoric archaeological sites. None of these previous resources were identified within or adjacent to the APE. A search of the Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File for the Undertaking was returned with negative results on October 27, 2022.

As a component of the cultural resources technical study being prepared for this Undertaking, Rincon is reaching out to you to request your input regarding the potential presence of cultural resources in the APE or its vicinity. This outreach is for informational purposes only and all responses will be documented in our technical report. The USACE and the SWRCB, are responsible for conducting formal outreach and consultation under Section 106 and Assembly Bill 52 per CEQA requirements, respectively.

If you have knowledge of cultural resources/historic properties of religious and cultural significance that may exist within or near the APE, please contact Debbie Balam in writing at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com, or by telephone at (805) 487-8357 by October 25, 2024. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debbie Balam".

Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Kry".

Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

Attachments

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Project Location Map

Figure 1 Project Location Map



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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Tejon Indian Tribe
Octavio Escobedo, Chairperson
P.O. Box 640
Arvin, CA, 93203
Phone: (661) 834 – 8566
oescobedo@tejonindiantribensn.gov

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Honorable Chairperson Escobedo:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

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Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Kry".

Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

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Figure 2 APE Map_REV



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Tule River Indian Tribe
Joey Garfield, Tribal Archaeologist
P. O. Box 589
Porterville, CA, 93258
Phone: (559) 783 – 8892
Fax: (559) 783-8932
joey.garfield@tulerivertribensn.gov

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Mr. Garfield:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

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100 feet northeast of the Sirretta Street and Kernville Road intersection and encompasses two parcels, including Assessor's Parcel Number 082-030-06 and 082-030-05. See attached Project Location Map.

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

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Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

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Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Tubatulabals of Kern Valley
Robert Gomez, Chairperson
P.O. Box 226
Lake Isabella, CA, 93240
Phone: (760) 379 – 4590
Fax: (760) 379-4592

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Honorable Chairperson Gomez:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

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Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

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Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

Attachments

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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley
Danelle Gutierrez, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 700
Big Pine, CA, 93513
Phone: (760) 938 – 2003
d.gutierrez@bigpinepaiute.org

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Ms. Gutierrez:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

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Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to be 'Linda Kry'.

Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Kern Valley Indian Community
Brandy Kendricks
30741 Foxridge Court
Tehachapi, CA, 93561
Phone: (661) 821 – 1733
krazykendricks@hotmail.com

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Ms. Kendricks:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

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Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Kry".

Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Big Pine Paiute Tribe of Owens Valley
Sally Manning, Environmental Director
P. O. Box 700
Big Pine, CA, 93513
Phone: (760) 938 – 2003
s.manning@bigpinepaiute.org

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Ms. Manning:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

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If you have knowledge of cultural resources/historic properties of religious and cultural significance that may exist within or near the APE, please contact Debbie Balam in writing at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com, or by telephone at (805) 487-8357 by October 25, 2024. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

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Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Kry".

Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

Attachments

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Project Location Map

Figure 1 Project Location Map



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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Tule River Indian Tribe
Neil Peyron, Chairperson
P.O. Box 589
Porterville, CA, 93258
Phone: (559) 781 – 4271
Fax: (559) 781-4610
neil.peyron@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Honorable Chairperson Peyron:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

The Undertaking would involve the replacement of an existing raw water intake system, which diverts water from the north fork of Kern River to the Kernville Water Treatment Plant. Due to the limited operational capacity of the existing raw water intake system, an emergency raw water intake system was installed approximately 100 feet upriver of the primary intake system to provide additional water supply during the non-winter months and low-flow periods during the winter months. To restore the Kern River water supply capacity, California Water Service (Cal Water), the project proponent, is proposing to install a single, reliable raw water intake system to replace the existing raw water intake system and auxiliary intake system. The proposed raw water intake system would be located downstream from the existing auxiliary intake system. The proposed raw water intake system would consist of an in-channel concrete intake structure, a self-cleaning cone screen, and two submersible vertical turbine pumps (one primary pump and one backup pump). The intake structure would be approximately 7 feet deep, and approximately 10-feet by 9-feet in area.

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100 feet northeast of the Sirretta Street and Kernville Road intersection and encompasses two parcels, including Assessor's Parcel Number 082-030-06 and 082-030-05. See attached Project Location Map.

California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) records searches were completed on September 12, 2022, and May 13, 2024. The CHRIS records search identified 11 cultural resources within a 0.5-mile search radius of the APE. Of these, eight are prehistoric archaeological sites. None of these previous resources were identified within or adjacent to the APE. A search of the Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File for the Undertaking was returned with negative results on October 27, 2022.

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If you have knowledge of cultural resources/historic properties of religious and cultural significance that may exist within or near the APE, please contact Debbie Balam in writing at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com, or by telephone at (805) 487-8357 by October 25, 2024. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Debbie Balam'.

Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to be 'Linda Kry'.

Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

Attachments

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Project Location Map

Figure 1 Project Location Map



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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Chumash Council of Bakersfield
Julio Quair, Chairperson
729 Texas Street
Bakersfield, CA, 93307
Phone: (661) 322 – 0121
chumashtribe@sbcglobal.net

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Honorable Chairperson Quair:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

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Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Linda Kry'.

Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV



October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley
James Rambeau, Chairperson
P. O. Box 700
Big Pine, CA, 93513
Phone: (760) 938 – 2003
Fax: (760) 938-2942
j.rambeau@bigpinepaiute.org

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Honorable Chairperson Rambeau:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

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If you have knowledge of cultural resources/historic properties of religious and cultural significance that may exist within or near the APE, please contact Debbie Balam in writing at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com, or by telephone at (805) 487-8357 by October 25, 2024. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debbie Balam".

Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Kry".

Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

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Figure 1 Project Location Map



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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Tejon Indian Tribe
Colin Rambo
P.O. Box 640
Arvin, CA, 93203
Phone: (661) 834 – 8566
colin.rambo@tejonindiantribensn.gov

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Mr. Rambo:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

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Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Kry".

Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Kern Valley Indian Community
Robert Robinson, Chairperson
P.O. Box 1010
Lake Isabella, CA, 93240
Phone: (760) 378 – 2915
bbutterbredt@gmail.com

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Honorable Chairperson Robinson:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

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Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

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Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Kern Valley Indian Community
Julie Turner, Secretary
P.O. Box 1010
Lake Isabella, CA, 93240
Phone: (760) 378 – 2915
bbutterbredt@gmail.com

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Ms. Turner:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

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Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

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Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

4589 N Marty Ave., Suite 102
Fresno, California 93722
559-228-9925

October 11, 2024
Project No: 21-12210

Tule River Indian Tribe
Kerri Vera, Environmental
Department
P. O. Box 589
Porterville, CA, 93258
Phone: (559) 783 – 8892
Fax: (559) 783-8932
kerri.vera@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov

Subject: Native American Outreach for Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County, California

Dear Ms. Vera:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained by California Water Service (Cal Water) to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project) between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County, California. The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and it is anticipated that the project will require a 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) pursuant to the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act. Therefore, according to 36 CFR 800.16(y), the Project is considered a federal undertaking (Undertaking) and subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations under 36 CFR 800 (Section 106). The USACE is the federal lead agency for Section 106 compliance and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is the CEQA lead agency for the Undertaking.

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Rincon Consultants, Inc.

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Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda Kry".

Linda Kry, BA, RA
Senior Cultural Resources Manager

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Project Location Map

Figure 1 Project Location Map



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21-12210 CR
Figure 2 APE Map_REV

Debbie Balam

From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 3:01 PM
To: d.gutierrez@bigpinepaiute.org
Cc: Linda Kry
Subject: RE: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Dear Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Gutierrez,

I am following up again to confirm your receipt of the outreach letter for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project. If you or your organization has any knowledge or concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area, please respond by email at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com or by telephone at 805-456-8357.

Thank you so much,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC. SINCE 1994

Trusted | Fair | Transparent | Accountable | Disciplined | Entrepreneurial

From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Friday, October 18, 2024 4:10 PM
To: d.gutierrez@bigpinepaiute.org
Cc: Linda Kry <lkry@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Dear Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Gutierrez,

I am following up to confirm your receipt of the outreach letter for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project. If you or your organization has any knowledge or concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area, please respond by email at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com or by telephone at 805-456-8357.

Thank you so much,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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From: Debbie Balam

Sent: Friday, October 11, 2024 12:19 PM

To: d.gutierrez@bigpinepaiute.org

Cc: Linda Kry <lkry@rinconconsultants.com>

Subject: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Hello,

Please see the attached letter regarding Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project in Kern County.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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Debbie Balam

From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 3:01 PM
To: s.manning@bigpinepaiute.org
Cc: Linda Kry
Subject: RE: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Dear Environmental Director Manning,

I am following up again to confirm your receipt of the outreach letter for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project. If you or your organization has any knowledge or concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area, please respond by email at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com or by telephone at 805-456-8357.

Thank you so much,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Friday, October 18, 2024 4:12 PM
To: 's.manning@bigpinepaiute.org' <s.manning@bigpinepaiute.org>
Cc: Linda Kry <lkry@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Dear Environmental Director Manning,

I am following up to confirm your receipt of the outreach letter for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project. If you or your organization has any knowledge or concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area, please respond by email at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com or by telephone at 805-456-8357.

Thank you so much,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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From: Debbie Balam

Sent: Friday, October 11, 2024 12:19 PM

To: s.manning@bigpinepaiute.org

Cc: Linda Kry <lkry@rinconconsultants.com>

Subject: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Hello,

Please see the attached letter regarding Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project in Kern County.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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Debbie Balam

From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 3:02 PM
To: crazykendricks@hotmail.com
Cc: Linda Kry
Subject: RE: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Dear Ms. Kendricks,

I am following up again to confirm your receipt of the outreach letter for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project. If you or your organization has any knowledge or concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area, please respond by email at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com or by telephone at 805-456-8357.

Thank you so much,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Friday, October 18, 2024 4:13 PM
To: 'crazykendricks@hotmail.com' <crazykendricks@hotmail.com>
Cc: Linda Kry <lkry@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Dear Ms. Kendricks,

I am following up to confirm your receipt of the outreach letter for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project. If you or your organization has any knowledge or concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area, please respond by email at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com or by telephone at 805-456-8357.

Thank you so much,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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From: Debbie Balam

Sent: Friday, October 11, 2024 12:26 PM

To: krazykendricks@hotmail.com

Cc: Linda Kry <lkry@rinconconsultants.com>

Subject: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Hello,

Please see the attached letter regarding Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project in Kern County.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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Debbie Balam

From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 3:02 PM
To: bbutterbredt@gmail.com
Cc: Linda Kry
Subject: RE: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Dear Chairperson Robinson,

I am following up again to confirm your receipt of the outreach letter for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project. If you or your organization has any knowledge or concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area, please respond by email at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com or by telephone at 805-456-8357.

Thank you so much,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Friday, October 18, 2024 4:13 PM
To: bbutterbredt@gmail.com
Cc: Linda Kry <lkry@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Dear Chairperson Robinson,

I am following up to confirm your receipt of the outreach letter for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project. If you or your organization has any knowledge or concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area, please respond by email at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com or by telephone at 805-456-8357.

Thank you so much,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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From: Debbie Balam

Sent: Friday, October 11, 2024 12:25 PM

To: bbutterbredt@gmail.com

Cc: Linda Kry <lkry@rinconconsultants.com>

Subject: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Hello,

Please see the attached letter regarding Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project in Kern County.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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Debbie Balam

From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 3:03 PM
To: 2deedominguez@gmail.com
Cc: Linda Kry
Subject: RE: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Dear Chairperson Dominguez,

I am following up again to confirm your receipt of the outreach letter for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project. If you or your organization has any knowledge or concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area, please respond by email at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com or by telephone at 805-456-8357.

Thank you so much,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Friday, October 18, 2024 4:14 PM
To: 2deedominguez@gmail.com
Cc: Linda Kry <lkry@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: RE: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Dear Chairperson Dominguez,

I am following up to confirm your receipt of the outreach letter for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project. If you or your organization has any knowledge or concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area, please respond by email at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com or by telephone at 805-456-8357.

Thank you so much,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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From: Debbie Balam

Sent: Friday, October 11, 2024 12:25 PM

To: 2deedominguez@gmail.com

Cc: Linda Kry <lkry@rinconconsultants.com>

Subject: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Hello,

Please see the attached letter regarding Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project in Kern County.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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Debbie Balam

From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 4:38 PM
To: Kerri Vera
Cc: Linda Kry
Subject: RE: [EXT] Re: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Thank you for your response. Will make note of that in our report.

Best,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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From: Kerri Vera <Kerri.Vera@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 4:20 PM
To: Debbie Balam <dbalam@rinconconsultants.com>
Cc: Linda Kry <lkry@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: [EXT] Re: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Rincon Consultants. Be cautious before clicking on any links, or opening any attachments, until you are confident that the content is safe .

Hello Debbie, thank you for following up with your proposed project. At this time, we do not have any information to share with you, regarding sensitive cultural resources or sites within the area.

If resources are discovered during project initiation, please reach out to us again.

Respectfully,

Kerri Vera - Director

Department of Environmental Protection

Tule River Tribe

POB 589, Porterville CA 93258

ph: 559/781-4271 ext: 5041

Debbie Balam

From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Friday, October 18, 2024 4:15 PM
To: kerri.vera@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov
Cc: Linda Kry
Subject: RE: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Dear Ms. Vera,

I am following up to confirm your receipt of the outreach letter for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project. If you or your organization has any knowledge or concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area, please respond by email at dbalam@rinconconsultants.com or by telephone at 805-456-8357.

Thank you so much,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Friday, October 11, 2024 12:32 PM
To: kerri.vera@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov
Cc: Linda Kry <lkry@rinconconsultants.com>
Subject: Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project

Hello,

Please see the attached letter regarding Native American Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project in Kern County.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

(She/Her)

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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Extra Services & Fees (check box, add fee as appropriate) <input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (hardcopy) \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (electronic) \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Required \$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery \$ _____	
Postage \$ 0.69	
Total Postage and Fees \$ 5.54	
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Postage

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Total Postage and Fees

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Street and Apt. No., or PO Box No.

Lake Isabella, CA 93240

City, State, ZIP+4®

Julie Turner

PS Form 3800, April 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9047

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☐ Return Receipt (electronic) \$

☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery \$

☐ Adult Signature Required \$

☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery \$

Postage

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Total Postage and Fees

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Sent To

P.O. Box 226

Street and Apt. No., or PO Box No.

Lake Isabella, CA 93240

City, State, ZIP+4®

Robert Gomez

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☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery \$

☐ Adult Signature Required \$

☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery \$

Postage

\$ 0.69

Total Postage and Fees

\$ 5.54

Sent To

James Rambeau

Street and Apt. No., or PO Box No.

P.O. Box 700

City, State, ZIP+4®

Big Pine, CA, 93513

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Postage

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Sent To

Julio Quair

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729 Texas St.

City, State, ZIP+4®

Bakersfield, CA, 93307

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<input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt (electronic)	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Mail Restricted Delivery	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Required	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Signature Restricted Delivery	\$
Postage	
\$	0.69
Total Postage and Fees	
\$	9.64

Postmark
Here

Sent To Robert Gomez	
Street and Apt. No., or PO Box No. P.O. Box 226	
City, State, ZIP+4® Lake Isabella, CA 93240	

PS Form 3800, April 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9047 See Reverse for Instructions

Appendix E

Local Historical Group Outreach Documentation



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

1530 Monterey Street, Suite D
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

805 547 0900

info@rinconconsultants.com

www.rinconconsultants.com

September 7, 2022

Kern County Historical Society
Attn: Mike Warner, President
Email: KCHS1931@gmail.com

Subject: Local Interested Party Consultation for the California Water Service's Kernville Raw Water Intake Project, Kern County.

Dear Mr. Warner:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained to prepare a Cultural Resources Technical Study for the California Water Service (Cal Water) Kernville Raw Water Intake Project, between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County. The proposed project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the federal agency for Section 106 compliance.

The project proposes to replace an existing raw water intake system, which diverts water from the north fork of Kern River to the Kernville Water Treatment Plant. The existing system was designed with a capacity of 1,000 gallons per minute (gpm) but is currently limited to an operational capacity of approximately 100 to 200 gpm. Due to the limited operational capacity of the intake system, an emergency raw water intake system with a pumping capacity of 600 to 700 gpm was installed to provide additional water supply during the non-winter months and low-flow periods during the winter months. To restore the Kern River water supply, Cal Water is proposing to install a 1,000-gpm raw water intake system to replace the original and emergency intake systems. The proposed raw water intake system will consist of an in-channel concrete intake structure, a self-cleaning cone screen, and two submersible vertical turbine pumps. The project is considered an undertaking pursuant to Section 106.

As a component of the Cultural Resources Technical Study, in compliance with Section 106, Rincon is reaching out to interested parties to request input regarding the presence of historic properties in the project area or its vicinity. We are currently in the initial phase of our study, working to identify historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed undertaking. If you or your organization has any knowledge of historic properties with the potential to be affected by the undertaking, or specific concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area or its vicinity, please respond by telephone at (805) 487-8357 or by email to dbalam@rinconconsultants.com.

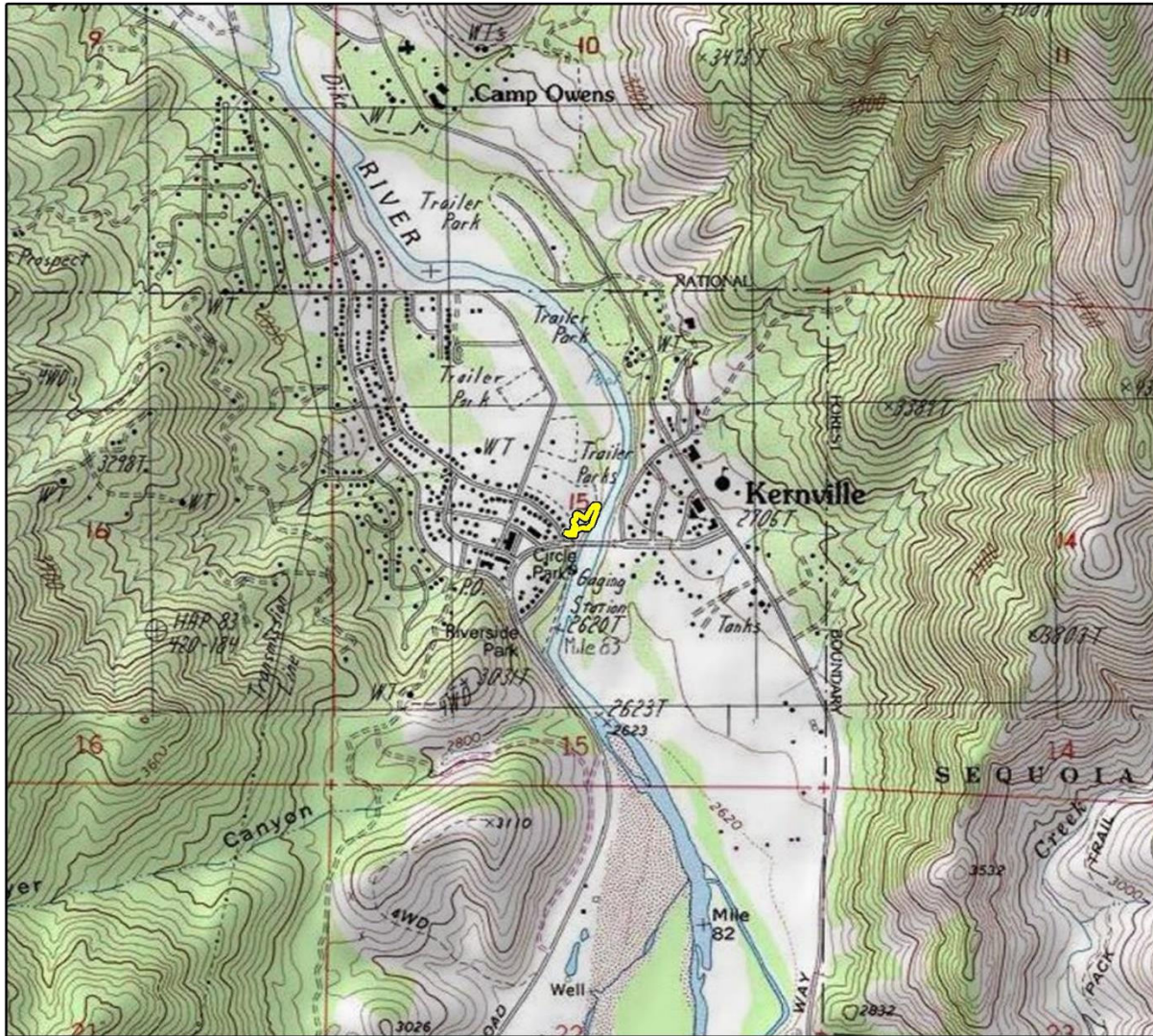
Sincerely,

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debbie Balam", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

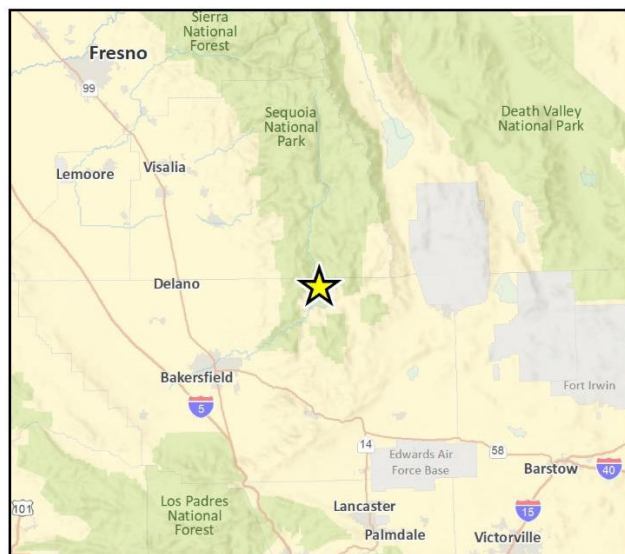
Enclosure: *Project Location and Vicinity Map*
Project Site Map



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representation depicted in this map may not portray all of the features
currently found in the vicinity today and/or features depicted in this map
may have changed since the original topographic map was assembled.

 Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet





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Figure 2 Project Site Map



Rincon Consultants, Inc.

1530 Monterey Street, Suite D
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

805 547 0900

info@rinconconsultants.com

www.rinconconsultants.com

September 7, 2022

Kern County Library
701 Truxten Avenue
Bakersfield, California 93301
Attn: Andie Sullivan, Director of Libraries
Email: info@kernlibrary.org

Subject: Local Interested Party Consultation for the California Water Service's Kernville Raw Water Intake Project, Kern County.

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained to prepare a Cultural Resources Technical Study for the California Water Service (Cal Water) Kernville Raw Water Intake Project, between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County. The proposed project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the federal agency for Section 106 compliance.

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As a component of the Cultural Resources Technical Study, in compliance with Section 106, Rincon is reaching out to interested parties to request input regarding the presence of historic properties in the project area or its vicinity. We are currently in the initial phase of our study, working to identify historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed undertaking. If you or your organization has any knowledge of historic properties with the potential to be affected by the undertaking, or specific concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area or its vicinity, please respond by telephone at (805) 487-8357 or by email to dbalam@rinconconsultants.com.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debbie Balam", written over a white background.

Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist



Enclosure: *Project Location and Vicinity Map*
 Project Site Map

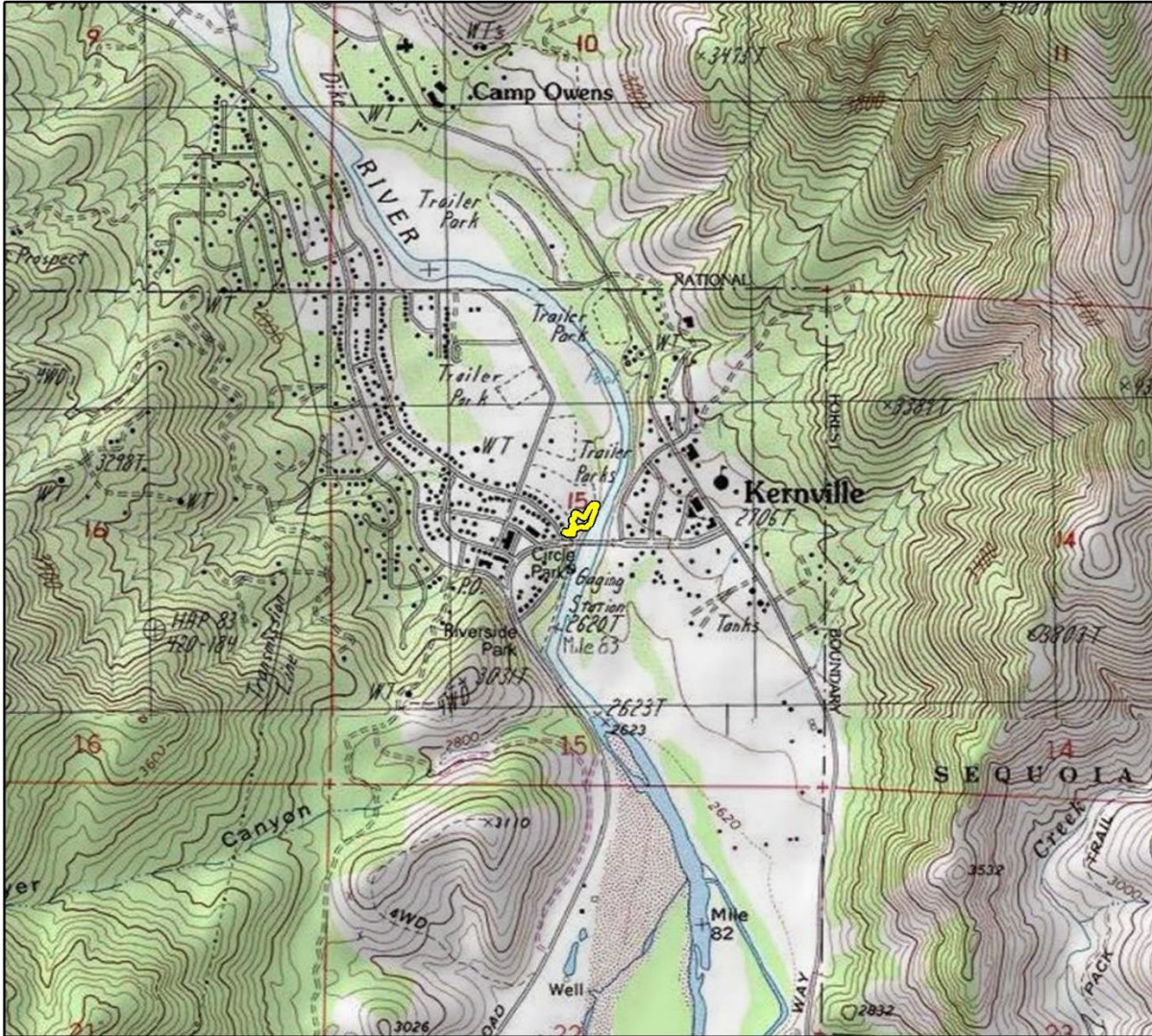
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

1530 Monterey Street, Suite D
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

805 547 0900

info@rinconconsultants.com

www.rinconconsultants.com



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representation depicted in this map may not portray all of the features
currently found in the vicinity today and/or features depicted in this map
may have changed since the original topographic map was assembled.

 Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet





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Rincon Consultants, Inc.

1530 Monterey Street, Suite D
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

805 547 0900

info@rinconconsultants.com

www.rinconconsultants.com

September 7, 2022

Kern River Valley Historical Society
49 Big Blue Road
Kernville, California 93238
Attn: Kern River Valley Historical Society Staff

Subject: Local Interested Party Consultation for the California Water Service's Kernville Raw Water Intake Project, Kern County.

Dear Staff:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained to prepare a Cultural Resources Technical Study for the California Water Service (Cal Water) Kernville Raw Water Intake Project, between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County. The proposed project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the federal agency for Section 106 compliance.

The project proposes to replace an existing raw water intake system, which diverts water from the north fork of Kern River to the Kernville Water Treatment Plant. The existing system was designed with a capacity of 1,000 gallons per minute (gpm) but is currently limited to an operational capacity of approximately 100 to 200 gpm. Due to the limited operational capacity of the intake system, an emergency raw water intake system with a pumping capacity of 600 to 700 gpm was installed to provide additional water supply during the non-winter months and low-flow periods during the winter months. To restore the Kern River water supply, Cal Water is proposing to install a 1,000-gpm raw water intake system to replace the original and emergency intake systems. The proposed raw water intake system will consist of an in-channel concrete intake structure, a self-cleaning cone screen, and two submersible vertical turbine pumps. The project is considered an undertaking pursuant to Section 106.

As a component of the Cultural Resources Technical Study, in compliance with Section 106, Rincon is reaching out to interested parties to request input regarding the presence of historic properties in the project area or its vicinity. We are currently in the initial phase of our study, working to identify historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed undertaking. If you or your organization has any knowledge of historic properties with the potential to be affected by the undertaking, or specific concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area or its vicinity, please respond by telephone at (805) 487-8357 or by email to dbalam@rinconconsultants.com.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

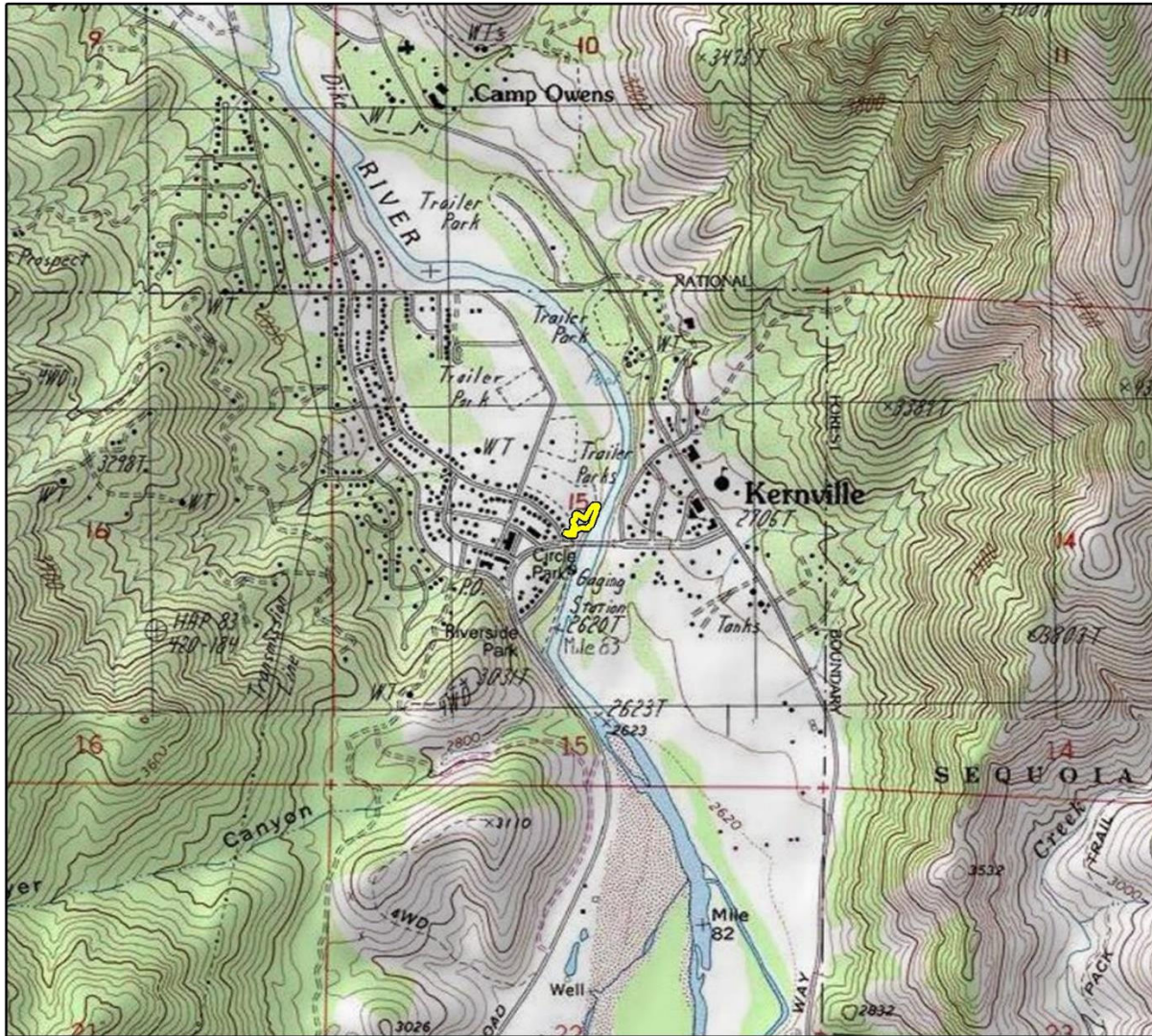
Sincerely,

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debbie Balam", is written over a horizontal line.

Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

Enclosure: *Project Location and Vicinity Map*
Project Site Map



Basemap provided by National Geographic Society, Esri and their licensors
© 2022. Kernville Quadrangle. T25S R33E S15. The topographic
representation depicted in this map may not portray all of the features
currently found in the vicinity today and/or features depicted in this map
may have changed since the original topographic map was assembled.

 Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet





Imagery provided by Microsoft Bing and its licensors © 2022.

Rachel Bilchak

From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Wednesday, September 7, 2022 1:58 PM
To: KCHS1931@gmail.com
Cc: Theadora Fuerstenberg
Subject: Local Interested Party Consultation Letter
Attachments: Kern County Historical Society.pdf

Hello,

Please see the attached letter.

Best,

Debbie Balam, Archaeologist

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

805-456-8357 Direct

805-607-9513 Mobile

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.

Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers

rinconconsultants.com

Rachel Bilchak

From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Wednesday, September 7, 2022 2:18 PM
To: info@kernlibrary.org
Cc: Theadora Fuerstenberg
Subject: Local Interested Party Consultation Letter
Attachments: Kern County Library.pdf

Hello,

Please see the attached letter.

Best,

Debbie Balam, Archaeologist

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

805-456-8357 Direct

805-607-9513 Mobile

dbalam@rinconconsultants.com



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Rincon Consultants, Inc.
1530 Monterey Street, Suite D
San Luis Obispo, California 93401
805-547-0900

May 17, 2024

Kern County Historical Society
Attn: Mike Warner, President
Email: KCHS1931@gmail.com

Subject: Local Interested Party Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County.

Dear Mr. Warner:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project or proposed project), between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County. The proposed project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the federal agency for Section 106 compliance.

The project proposes to replace an existing raw water intake system, which diverts water from the north fork of Kern River to the Kernville Water Treatment Plant. Due to the limited operational capacity of the existing raw water intake system, an emergency raw water intake system was installed approximately 100 feet upriver of the primary intake system to provide additional water supply during the non-winter months and low-flow periods during the winter months. To restore the Kern River water supply capacity, California Water Service (Cal Water), the project proponent, is proposing to install a single, reliable raw water intake system to replace the existing raw water intake system and auxiliary intake system. The proposed raw water intake system would be located downstream from the existing auxiliary intake system. The proposed raw water intake system would consist of an in-channel concrete intake structure, a self-cleaning cone screen, and two submersible vertical turbine pumps (one primary pump and one backup pump). The intake structure would be approximately 7 feet deep, and approximately 10-feet by 9-feet in area. The project is considered an undertaking pursuant to Section 106.

Rincon is reaching out to interested parties to request input regarding the presence of historic properties in the project area or its vicinity. We initially reached out to the Kern County Historical Society on August 30, 2022, but have not received a response. We are following up on that initial outreach. If you or your organization has any knowledge of historic properties with the potential to be affected by the undertaking, or specific concerns regarding cultural resources in the project area or its vicinity, please respond by telephone at (805) 487-8357 or by email to dbalam@rinconconsultants.com.

Sincerely,

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

Enclosures: *Project Location and Vicinity Map*





RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC. SINCE 1994

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
1530 Monterey Street, Suite D
San Luis Obispo, California 93401
805-547-0900

May 17, 2024

Kern County Library
701 Truxten Avenue
Bakersfield, California 93301
Attn: Andie Sullivan, Director of Libraries
Email: info@kernlibrary.org

Subject: Local Interested Party Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County.

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) was retained to prepare a cultural resources technical study for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project (project or proposed project), between Sirretta Street and Kernville Road in Kern County. The proposed project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the federal agency for Section 106 compliance.

The project proposes to replace an existing raw water intake system, which diverts water from the north fork of Kern River to the Kernville Water Treatment Plant. Due to the limited operational capacity of the existing raw water intake system, an emergency raw water intake system was installed approximately 100 feet upriver of the primary intake system to provide additional water supply during the non-winter months and low-flow periods during the winter months. To restore the Kern River water supply capacity, California Water Service (Cal Water), the project proponent, is proposing to install a single, reliable raw water intake system to replace the existing raw water intake system and auxiliary intake system. The proposed raw water intake system would be located downstream from the existing auxiliary intake system. The proposed raw water intake system would consist of an in-channel concrete intake structure, a self-cleaning cone screen, and two submersible vertical turbine pumps (one primary pump and one backup pump). The intake structure would be approximately 7 feet deep, and approximately 10-feet by 9-feet in area. The project is considered an undertaking pursuant to Section 106.

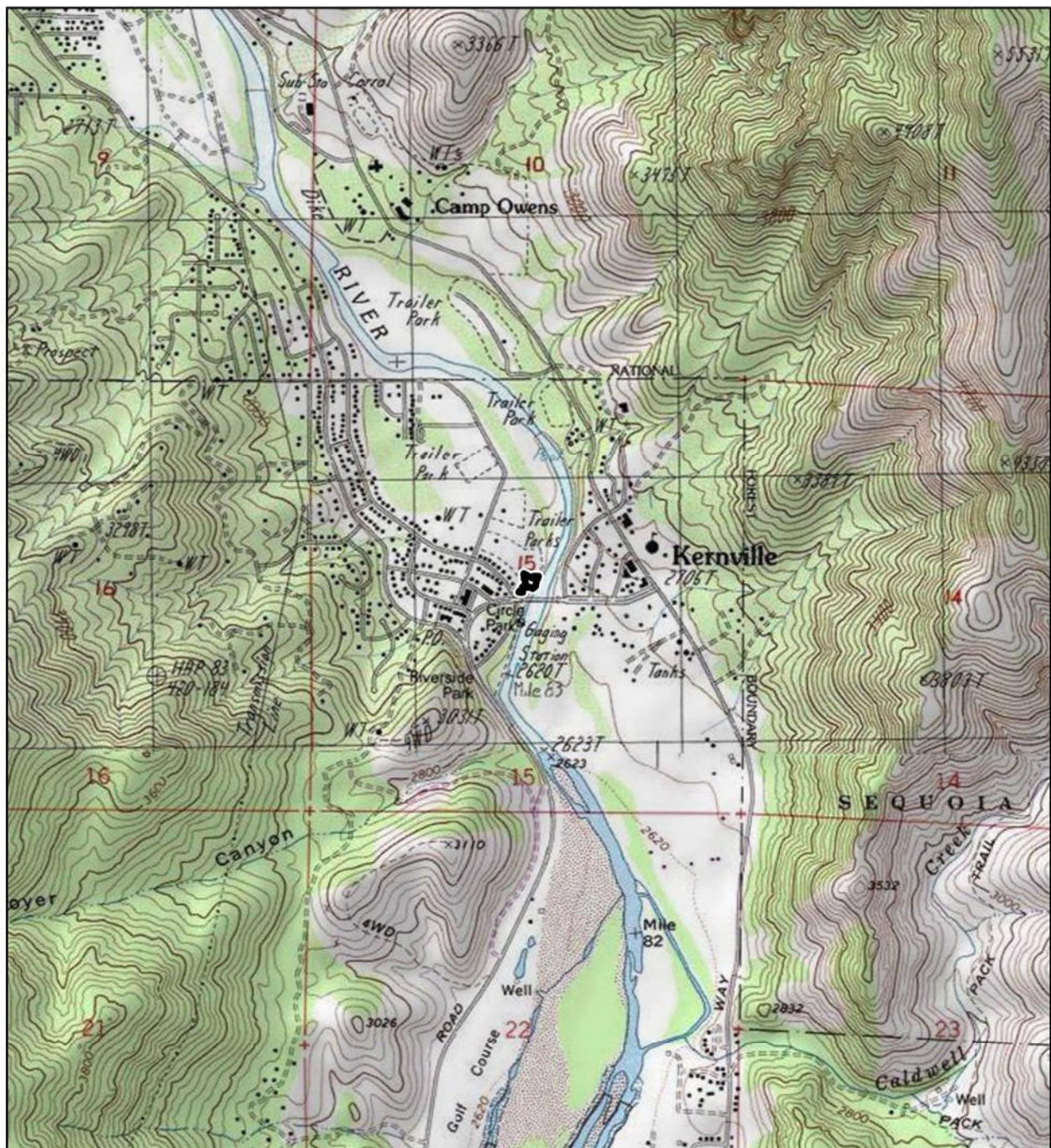
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Sincerely,

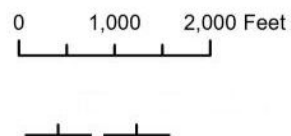
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

Enclosure: *Project Location and Vicinity Map*



Imagery provided by National Geographic Society, Esri, and their licensors © 2024. Kernville Quadrangle. T25S R33E S15. The topographic representation depicted in this map may not portray all of the features currently found in the vicinity today and/or features depicted in this map may have changed since the original topographic map was assembled.







Rincon Consultants, Inc.
1530 Monterey Street, Suite D
San Luis Obispo, California 93401
805-547-0900

May 17, 2024

Kern River Valley Historical Society
49 Big Blue Road
Kernville, California 93238
Attn: Kern River Valley Historical Society Staff

Subject: Local Interested Party Consultation for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, Kern County.

Dear Staff:

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The project proposes to replace an existing raw water intake system, which diverts water from the north fork of Kern River to the Kernville Water Treatment Plant. Due to the limited operational capacity of the existing raw water intake system, an emergency raw water intake system was installed approximately 100 feet upriver of the primary intake system to provide additional water supply during the non-winter months and low-flow periods during the winter months. To restore the Kern River water supply capacity, California Water Service (Cal Water), the project proponent, is proposing to install a single, reliable raw water intake system to replace the existing raw water intake system and auxiliary intake system. The proposed raw water intake system would be located downstream from the existing auxiliary intake system. The proposed raw water intake system would consist of an in-channel concrete intake structure, a self-cleaning cone screen, and two submersible vertical turbine pumps (one primary pump and one backup pump). The intake structure would be approximately 7 feet deep, and approximately 10-feet by 9-feet in area. The project is considered an undertaking pursuant to Section 106.

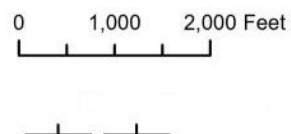
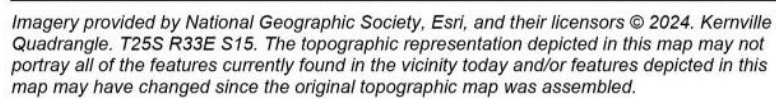
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Sincerely,

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Debbie Balam, BA
Archaeologist

Enclosure: *Project Location and Vicinity Map*





Debbie Balam

From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2024 11:18 AM
To: KCHS1931@gmail.com
Cc: Linda Kry
Subject: Local Interested Party Consultation Letter
Attachments: Kern County Historical Society_UPDATED.pdf

Hello,

Rincon is reaching out to interested parties to request input regarding the presence of historic properties for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, in Kern County, California. We initially reached out to the Kern County Historical Society on August 30, 2022, but have not received a response. We are following up on that initial outreach. Please see the attached letter and associated Project maps. Should you have any questions or concerns, or have input on the Project, please respond to the email or phone number listed in the attached letter.

Best,

Debbie Balam, BA, Archaeologist

805-644-4455 Main | 805-607-9513 Mobile | 805-456-8357 Direct

debbie@rinconconsultants.com



RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.
Environmental Scientists | Planners | Engineers

Debbie Balam

From: Debbie Balam
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2024 11:18 AM
To: info@kernlibrary.org; andie.sullivan@kernlibrary.com
Cc: Linda Kry
Subject: Local Interested Party Consultation
Attachments: Kern County Library_UPDATED.pdf

Hello,

Rincon is reaching out to interested parties to request input regarding the presence of historic properties for the Kernville Raw Water Intake Upgrade Project, in Kern County, California. We initially reached out to the Kern County Library on August 30, 2022, but have not received a response. We are following up on that initial outreach. Please see the attached letter and associated Project maps. Should you have any questions or concerns, or have input on the Project, please respond to the email or phone number listed in the attached letter.

Best,

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rincon@rinconconsultants.com

