### PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT FOR LYONS CANYON RANCH SPECIFIC PLAN, TENTATIVE TRACT MAP 53653, SANTA CLARITA, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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USGS 7.5' Oat Mountain Quad Approximately 358 Acres Resource Identifiers: None

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#### MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

At the request of RBF Consulting, BonTerra Consulting completed a Phase I cultural resources records search and field survey and paleontological resources records search for the proposed Lyons Canyon Ranch Specific Plan located near Santa Clarita, northern Los Angeles County. The project site is situated just west of Interstate 5 between Pico Canyon Road/Lyons Avenue to the north and Calgrove Boulevard to the south. The approximately 358-acre project site is currently undeveloped, but portions were disturbed historically. The impact "footprint" for the project includes approximately 160 acres of the overall site, with the remaining 198 acres dedicated as open space. Potential impacts to drainages within the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) will require a Section 404 nationwide permit, activating compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 106, this study was conducted to identify any potentially significant cultural or paleontological resources that might be adversely affected by the project.

A cultural resources records search for the project was conducted by the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) at California State University, Fullerton. The results indicated that although portions of the project site were examined during six previous field surveys, no archaeological or built-environment resources were previously recorded within the project site. Historic U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangles indicated that the earliest constructed features in the project site were several structures and a drainage feature (small check dam) in Lyon Canyon during the 1920s. Native American and local historical representatives contacted during the Section 106 consultation process did not report any sites or resource locations in the immediate vicinity of the project.

No archaeological sites or potentially significant resources were identified within the project site during a field survey. No standing buildings are present in the project site, and no evidence of historic-era archaeological deposits was observed. Although the small check dam remains in place, no evidence of the circa 1920s structures was identified. The check dam is constructed of poured concrete reinforced with steel "re-bar", and exposed re-bar along the top edge of the dam indicates that an upper tier is no longer present. This feature is determined to not have the potential to yield important historical information and is therefore not a significant resource. Because of the potential for subsurface prehistoric and/or historic deposits, archaeological monitoring of grading is recommended in 1) the floor of Lyon Canyon and 2) the location of a narrow hillside cleft near the southeast corner of the project site (possible rockshelter).

A paleontological resources records search and literature review showed that the project site is composed of relatively recent alluvium in canyon bottoms and the fossil-bearing Saugus (non-marine) and Pico (marine) Formations in adjacent hillsides and ridges. Recent alluvium is considered unlikely to contain significant fossil resources. Two fossil localities are recorded in or near the southeast corner of the project site, consisting of fossilized marine vertebrates such as sharks and fishes, and significant fossils have been recovered from the Saugus and Pico Formations at other localities in the general vicinity. Paleontological monitoring of grading in hillsides, ridges, and associated bedrock is recommended because of the potential for significant fossil resources to occur in these areas.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

BonTerra Consulting was retained by RBF Consulting to conduct a Phase I cultural resources assessment for the proposed Lyons Canyon Ranch Specific Plan project located in the Stevenson Ranch area near Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County, California (Exhibit 1). The proposed project involves development of approximately 160.1 acres within a larger 357.9-acre project site for residential and associated uses, with the remaining 197.8 acres planned as open space. The overall project site is presently undeveloped but portions have been used previously for ranching or farming and as a television filming locale.

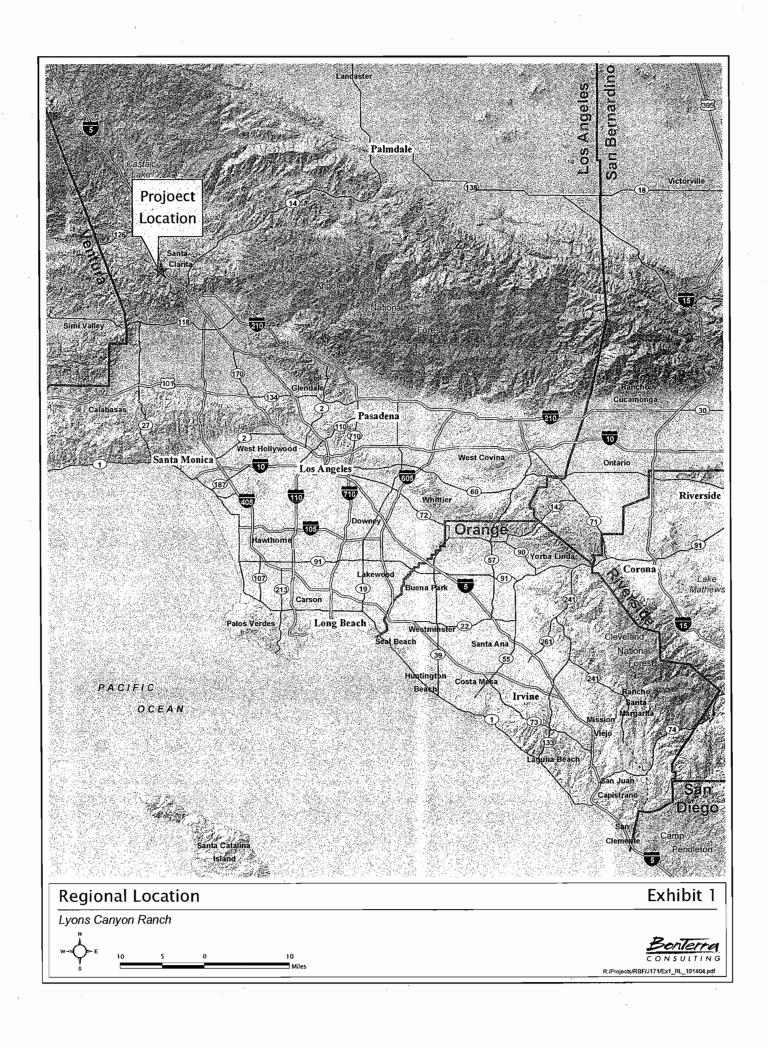
The Lyons Canyon Ranch Specific Plan project ("project") is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines. Impacts to drainages in the project area will require a Section 404 nationwide permit under the Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1977, which authorizes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) to issue permits regulating impacts to waters and wetlands of the United States. To issue a Section 404 permit, the ACOE must comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, which requires federal agencies to consider the potential of a project to adversely affect cultural resources. In compliance with CEQA and Section 106, therefore, this study was conducted to identify whether any cultural (archaeological or historic) or paleontological (faunal or floral fossil) resources might be adversely affected by the proposed project.

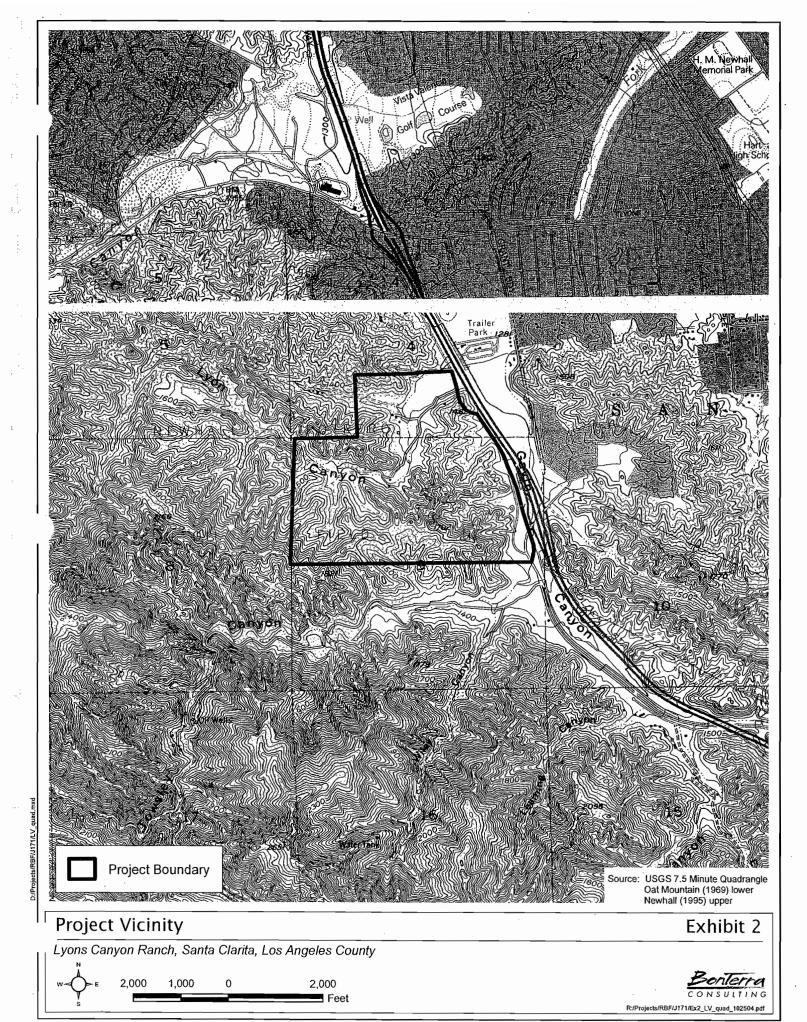
#### 2.0 LOCATION AND SETTING

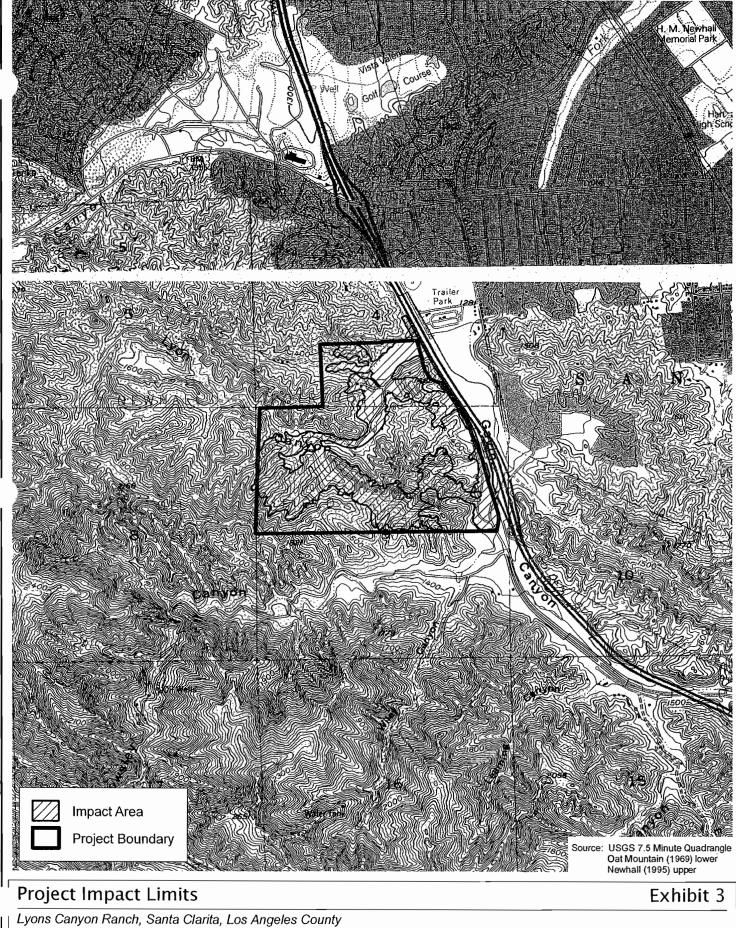
The project site is located in the unincorporated Stevenson Ranch area near Santa Clarita in northwestern Los Angeles County. The specific location is best described as the northern half of Section 9, southeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 4, and southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 4 in Township 3 North, Range 16 West (San Bernardino Base and Meridian), excluding minor portions along the eastern side of this area reduced by the Interstate 5 freeway corridor and the Old Road. The project site appears on the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) *Oat Mountain* 7.5' Quadrangle (Exhibit 2). The 160.1 acres within the impact "footprint" include lowland areas as well as hills and ridgelines (Exhibit 3).

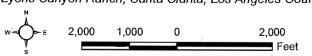
The project site is characterized by hilly topography on either side of the site's central feature, the east-west trending Lyon Canyon drainage. This and an unnamed drainage just to the north have relatively flat bottoms, while others in the project site are V-shaped, cut by the erosion of steep slopes and sharp ridgelines. Elevations in the project site range from about 1,800 feet (549 meters) above mean sea level at the southwest corner to about 1,300 feet (396 meters) at the northeast corner. Lyon Canyon drains eastward into Gavin Canyon and toward the South Fork of the Santa Clara River, which leads to the Santa Clara River (proper) 3.75 miles northeast of the project. Following a wide, flat valley to the Pacific Ocean, the Santa Clara River is chiefly a shallow, multi-channel or "braided" streambed of sand and silt that has been utilized for quarry material and as productive farmland (Norris and Webb 1990:342; Mount 1995:58, 74).

The Santa Clarita area is situated in the northern Transverse Ranges between the westernmost reaches of the San Gabriel Mountains to the east and Santa Susana Mountains to the west. Geologically, bedrock in this area is composed primarily of the Saugus Formation (non-marine) (Reed and Hollister 1936:102; Crowell 1954:51; Norris and Webb 1990:317). Within the project site, the Pico Formation (marine) also occurs (see Appendix E). Both formations contain fossil materials. Alluvial lowlands in the project site have been disturbed, and vegetation is now dominated by intrusive species such as wild oats (*Avena barbata*), bromes (*Bromus* sp.), pigweed (*Amaranthus albus*), mustard (*Brassica geniculata*), and filaree (*Erodium* sp.). Canyons burned in recent wildfires exhibit recovering chaparral growth, with coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and a few valley oak (*Quercus lobata*) surviving along the base of slopes.











#### 3.0 CULTURAL BACKGROUND

#### 3.1 PREHISTORIC BACKGROUND

The prehistory of the Upper Santa Clara River Valley is best described in terms of a general chronology developed for the southern California coastal region by William Wallace in 1955 (McIntyre 1990:2-8). Supported by radiocarbon dates from key archaeological sites, Wallace (1955) established a four-stage sequence that after nearly 50 years remains widely applicable today. He identified four archaeological *horizons* based on types of artifacts and features diagnostic of broad periods in prehistory:

- Early Man Horizon (before 7,000 years ago)
- Millingstone Horizon (7,000-3,500 years ago)
- Intermediate Horizon (3,500-1,500 years ago)
- Late Prehistoric Horizon (1,500-historic contact, ca. 200 years ago)

The first horizon, Early Man, was initially speculative because substantial evidence was lacking. Since Wallace formulated his chronology, however, sites on the central coast and at Buena Vista Lake, for example, have yielded radiocarbon ages between 9,500 and 8,000 years ago (Greenwood 1972; Fredrickson and Grossman 1977; Glassow 1977). Clovis-like fluted projectile points at least 11,000 years old have been found in the southern San Joaquin Valley, Mojave Desert, and Tehachapi Mountains (Moratto 1984:81, 87) – the latter just 35 miles north of the project – substantiating Wallace's belief in a very early period of occupation.

The Early Man Horizon is usually thought to have been characterized by small, highly mobile bands of hunters who were drawn to Late Ice Age resources – broad inland lakes and marshes, and large game. Now known to correspond to the better-defined Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition (WPLT) of the interior deserts or Paleo-Coastal Tradition (PCT) of the Pacific littoral zone (both 11,000-8,000 years ago), sites from this period show a greater diversity of ecological settings and approaches to subsistence (Moratto 1984:104). Sophisticated lithic technology of the WPLT/PCT featured finely-crafted projectile points, crescents, scrapers, and knives.

The Millingstone Horizon (often called Early Period because pre-Millingstone materials are rare) represents a long period of time characterized by small but less nomadic groups that probably relied on a seasonal round of settlement that may have begun during earlier millennia (see Moratto 1984:109). In many areas, the seasonal round likely included both inland and coastal residential bases. Millingstone sites are marked by the appearance of seed-grinding tools such as manos, metates, and hammerstones, usually in large numbers. These often occur in association with shell midden in coastal locations. Seeds from sage, buckwheat, and various grasses provided staple foods, and less emphasis appears to have been placed on hunting. Coarse-grained lithic materials, such as quartzite and rhyolite, are more common in flaked stone tools from this period than fine-grained materials such as chert and jasper.

During the Intermediate Period (also called Middle Period), the first evidence of acorn processing appeared in the presence of mortars and pestles. As a high calorie, storable food, acorns contributed to increasing sedentism and more complex social organization (see A. Johnson and Earle 1987). The absence of small projectile points indicates that the bow and arrow – a hallmark of the Late Prehistoric Period – had not yet been introduced. Along the coast, the Intermediate Period saw the use of more diverse marine resources, evident in bone and shell fishhooks, harpoon points, net weights, and the remains of plank canoes. Shell ornaments were produced. Regional exchange intensified, with non-local materials such as steatite, serpentine, fused shale, and obsidian obtained through trade (McIntyre 1990:5).

The Late Prehistoric Horizon or Period began with larger populations and a wider variety of material culture and social institutions. Storable surplus foods such as acorns and dried meats allowed populations to increase and social mechanisms to diversify. New artifact classes, such as small triangular projectile points and steatite shaft straighteners (indicating bow and arrow technology), some types of shell beads, and ceramics (in some areas) are diagnostic of the Late Prehistoric Period. Given the rise in population and more complex social practices, the production of pictographs (rock paintings) is also thought to be a hallmark of this period.

Late Period archaeology is generally better understood because the late nineteenth and early twentieth century descendants of these groups provided additional information to early anthropologists. However, so few descendents could be identified from the Tataviam or *Alliklik*, whose territory included the Upper Santa Clara River Valley, that very little of them is known. By the time anthropologists began to collect data about traditional native lifeways in California (about 1900), virtually no Tataviam could be found. Decimated by the effects of Spanish missionization and absorbed by other groups through inter-marriage, the Tataviam vanished rapidly from the cultural landscape. What is known about their culture has been reconstructed through linguistic and ethnohistoric research, archaeological analysis, and the remembrances of individuals from neighboring bands.

Most of what is known about the Tataviam has been gleaned from raw field notes taken by anthropologists John P. Harrington and Alfred L. Kroeber as well as from records at Mission San Fernando, where many Tataviam were taken, and diaries of early Spanish explorers (King and Blackburn 1978:537). Recent work with these materials (Johnson 1978; Earle 1990, 1993; J. Johnson and Earle 1990) has helped considerably in understanding more about Tataviam life. Their territory encompassed a roughly triangular area from the Piru area, eastward along the upper Santa Clara River through the Newhall area to Soledad Pass, and northward across the Sierra Pelona, Sawmill, and Liebre Mountains to the westernmost edge of the Antelope Valley and southernmost slopes of the Tehachapi Mountains (J. Johnson and Earle 1990:193).

The Tataviam were hunter-gatherers that spoke a variant of the indigenous Takic language (Kroeber 1925:611-614; King and Blackburn 1978). Takic-speakers are believed to have migrated into southern California from the Great Basin sometime between 1,000 and 3,000 years ago, an event some archaeologists believe interrupted the long-standing Millingstone way of life (McIntyre 1990:4). Tataviam subsistence centered upon the seasonal gathering of plant foods (yucca, acorns, sage seeds, and juniper berries) and hunting (rabbit, rodents, deer, and antelope). Acorns, the staple food of most Late Period groups in California, may have been less important to the Tataviam, who utilized yucca more extensively (King and Blackburn 1978:535). The plant was roasted in stone-lined earth ovens, often identified archaeologically (e.g., Hanks 1970, 1971; King, Smith, and King 1974; McIntyre 1990:16; Milburn 1998).

With the Santa Clara River Valley and Antelope Valley acting as east-west corridors between the deserts and coast, the Tataviam likely participated in "down the line" long-distance trade. Shell beads found in the western Mojave Desert, for example were acquired by the Takic-speaking Kitanemuk through a trade network in which the Tataviam may have been linked with Hokan-speaking Chumash on the coast (see Warren and Crabtree 1986:192). Although the Tataviam and Chumash differed linguistically, some aspects of their material culture, such as ritual objects and pictographs, were quite similar (e.g., Elsasser and Heizer 1963).

A number of Tataviam villages have been identified through historic registers at Mission San Fernando, including *tsawayung* at the original Mexican-era Rancho San Francisco headquarters near Castaic Junction, *akure'eng* near the spring at the Newhall townsite, and *tochonanga* southeast of the Newhall townsite (J. Johnson and Earle 1990:192; see also Merriam 1968).

#### 3.2 HISTORIC BACKGROUND

The major historic periods for the greater Los Angeles area are defined by key events documented by participants, witnesses, historians, and cartographers:

- Spanish Period (1769–1822, or 233–180 years ago)
- Mexican Period (1822–1848, or 180–154 years ago)
- American Period (1848–Present, or since 156 years ago).

Spanish explorer Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo made a temporary landfall at the Chumash village of *šišolop* (present-day Ventura) on October 12, 1542 (Grant 1978:518). However, the beginning of the post-prehistoric era in southern California is marked by the arrival of the Gaspar de Portolá overland expedition from New Spain (Mexico) and founding of the first Spanish settlement at San Diego on July 16, 1769.

With the onset of the Spanish Period, the Tataviam first came into direct contact with Europeans when the Portolá expedition passed through their territory about two weeks later, reaching the upper Santa Clara River in the Newhall-Saugus area and camping briefly as they continued west toward Ventura (McIntyre 1990:8). In 1772, Pedro Fages, a soldier searching for Spanish deserters, traveled through the Antelope Valley and into the San Joaquin Valley via Tejon Pass (Beck and Haase 1974:15). In 1776, Friar Francisco Garcés arrived in the Newhall-Saugus area and turned northward, following lower Castaic Creek and Elizabeth Lake Canyon to reach the Antelope Valley (McIntyre 1990:9).

Three of the 21 Franciscan missions established by the Spanish in *Alta California* impacted Tataviam people profoundly: Mission San Gabriel Arcángel (1771), Mission San Fernando Rey de España (1797), and Mission San Buenaventura (1782). An *assistencia* (outlying chapel and granary) of Mission San Fernando was established in 1802 along the upper Santa Clara River (Perkins 1957; McIntyre 1990:10).

In 1820, Friar Mariano Payéras, *Presidente* of the California missions, reported to Spain that a mission should be established on the Santa Clara River in the Newhall area, referring to the location as *Cajon de los Difuntos* (Canyon of the Dead) because native people had killed two Spanish soldiers there (Beattie 1929:251-252). However, the rebellion in Mexico against Spain was already under way, and Payéras received no support for his campaign to establish additional missions in California's interior.

Mexico's independence from Spain in 1822 brought the Mexican Period to California. Mexico secularized the missions but continued the Spanish practice of granting large tracts of ranch land to soldiers, civil servants, and pioneers. The project is situated just beyond the western extent of the massive 48,612-acre Rancho San Francisco, granted in 1839 to Antonio del Valle, a Spanish lieutenant, by Juan Bautista Alvarado, one of a series of Mexican governors of *Alta California* (Avina 1932:54; Beck and Haase 1974:37; Cowan 1977:76). Rancho San Francisco became popularly known as Rancho de Valle and is designated California Historical Landmark No. 556 (Office of Historic Preservation 1996:100-101).

On March 9, 1842, gold was discovered on the great ranch in Placerita Canyon by Francisco Lopez (Newhall 1992:52-53; Whitehead 1978:229), six years before the famous discovery at Sutter's Mill that unleashed the Gold Rush. Lopez is said to have dreamed about finding the gold, and an oak growing at the spot came to be known as "Oak of the Golden Dream", now designated California Historical Landmark No. 168 (Office of Historic Preservation 1996:95).

Anglo-American trapper Jedediah Smith began to explore *Alta California* as early as 1826 (Morgan 1953:200-202; Lewis 1993:441). James Ohio Pattie and Ewing Young passed through the Upper Santa Clara River Valley in the early 1830s (Beck and Haase 1974:43). Preceding an American challenge for the California territory, John C. Fremont's topographical engineers began to survey the region for the United States during the 1840s (Lewis 1993:172). Before long, the Mexican-American War broke out, with Fremont in command of the California Battalion for the United States. Fremont's battalion marched through the Santa Clara River Valley and south to Mission San Fernando, where the hostilities ended on January 13, 1847 with the Treaty of Cahuenga (Beck and Haase 1974:48; Lewis 1993:177). The American Period followed with Mexico's concession of *Alta California* to the United States under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo on February 2, 1848 (Rolle 1998:91). The transition from Hispanic to American dominance became more apparent in 1850, when the new State of California was apportioned into 27 original counties, including Los Angeles County (Coy 1973:140; Marschner 2000:43).

The Gold Rush created a need for roads between the mining camps and major trade centers of San Francisco and Los Angeles. Early in 1855, shipping pioneer Phineas Banning blazed a wagon road north from Los Angeles to the newly established Fort Tejon, opening direct freight service between Los Angeles, Mojave Desert, and southern Kern County (Krythe 1957:66-67). The arduous route was improved in 1862 when a deep passageway was cut through an intervening ridge. Known as Beale's Cut, the feature is located in the Newhall area and designated California Historical Landmark No. 1006 (Office of Historic Preservation 1996:111).

In 1858, the Butterfield overland stage line began to utilize Banning's road (Ormsby 1955:117). The route followed San Francisquito Canyon rather than the steep grade north of Castaic presently used for Interstate 5 (see Outland 1973:179). There were four stations between Hart's (near present-day Newhall) and Tejon Pass: King's, Widow Smith's, French John's, and Reed's (G. Bailey in Ormsby 1955:177). Hart's Station changed ownership several times but was best known as Lyon's Station after it was acquired by Sanford and Cyrus Lyon in 1855 (Outland 1973:157; Reynolds 1992:31). The Lyon's Station site is designated California Historical Landmark No. 688 and located just three miles east of the project (Office of Historic Preservation 1996:103). Sanford Lyon later speculated for oil in Pico Canyon as well as in the canyon that now bears his name (Reynolds 1992:39; Wright and Scorza 2000a:8).

During the winter of 1861-1862, relentless rains in southern California produced catastrophic floods that washed away buildings, crops, and livestock by the thousands. The floods were followed by two years of catastrophic drought that dealt another crippling blow to crops and livestock (Cleland 1951:126-137). Land values fell dramatically, and most ranchers were forced to sell their holdings. The crisis opened the door to speculators and entrepreneurs from the East Coast who envisioned profitable new developments on cheap land. One of these was Thomas A. Scott of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Scott sent Thomas Bard to California to purchase land in the quest for oil, and Bard purchased Rancho San Francsico in 1865 (Hutchinson 1965:87). The enterprise was unsuccessful, and Bard sold Rancho San Francisco to rancher Henry Mayo Newhall in 1875 (Hutchinson 1965:254; Rolle 1991:70). Oil speculation in the region, however, continued at a brisk pace as discoveries were made in other locations.

On September 6, 1876, the Southern Pacific Railroad was completed through Soledad Canyon and crossed Newhall's Rancho San Francisco along the upper Santa Clara River. The golden spike driven at Lang Station represented a critical link between Los Angeles, northern California, and transcontinental routes to the east (Cleland 1951:225-226). The site of Lang Station is designated California Historical Landmark No. 590 (Office of Historic Preservation 1996:101). A station aptly named Newhall was established on October 28, 1876, but was renamed Saugus two years later when the original name was transferred to a new station constructed two miles to the south (Gudde 1998:352).

The history of the Santa Clarita Valley is perhaps best known for the Newhall Land and Farming Company founded in 1883 by the heirs of Henry Mayo Newhall after his death in 1882 (Newhall 1958, 1992; Dickason 1983; Rolle 1991). Upon the company's 100-year anniversary, President and Chairman of the Board James Dickason (1983:16) summarized its history in terms of the chief economic pursuits during the first four quarters:

- <u>1883-1908</u>: cattle industries, including feed yards supplied by the company's own crops
- 1908-1933: farming development and land sales
  - 1933-1958: mineral development and cultivation and irrigation improvements
- <u>1958-1983</u>: urban development (the communities of Newhall, Saugus, Valencia, and Canyon Country were incorporated as the City of Santa Clarita in 1987).

The earliest attempts to commercialize oil in southern California occurred during the 1850s (White 1962:2, 1968:6-8; Franks and Lambert 1985:4). The region was already well known to Native Americans and early explorers for tar seeps and petroleum springs, but the first saleable petroleum-based products were lamp fuels such as camphene and kerosene (made to replace the more expensive alternative, whale oil), and lubricants. Crude petroleum for these products was skimmed or dipped from pools on the surface or in pits or shafts. According to Hutchinson (1965:99), the first "true" oil well in southern California was drilled in 1865 near Piru.

Oil speculation in Rancho San Francisco had commenced under Thomas Bard in 1865. However, Henry Mayo Newhall, who had acquired the ranch from Bard ten years later, was not interested in the oil business and concentrated instead on traditional ranching pursuits – raising cattle, sheep, and horses – and agricultural endeavors, such as growing wheat and fruit trees and improving irrigation (Newhall 1958:51-52). Even so, he allowed speculation by "wildcatters" to continue. In 1875, Well No. 4 in Pico Canyon struck oil, becoming the state's first successful well and establishing the Newhall Field (Newhall 1958:91; Franks and Lambert 1985:42; Rintoul 1990:5). "Pico No. 4" is designated California Historical Landmark No. 516 (Office of Historic Preservation 1996:99). All other speculation efforts on the ranch failed, however, and as late as 1934 Newhall's son William declared that "there is no indication that this ranch is an oil property" (Newhall 1958:91). It wasn't until 1936 – more than 60 years after the strike at Pico No. 4 – that oil was struck on the ranch again, in Potrero Canyon. By 1940, however, most pools in the Greater Newhall Field had been exhausted, and the majority of operations in the Newhall area were shut down (Franks and Lambert 1985:42). The Castaic Junction and Honor Rancho fields were discovered in 1950, but did not produce substantial yields (Rintoul 1981:91-92).

In 1914, construction began on a more direct roadway over the La Liebre Mountains between the Newhall-Saugus area and Gorman. Originally a graded dirt surface called the Tejon Route, the road was opened to vehicles in 1915. The roadway was finished with concrete in 1919 and eventually became known as the Ridge Route (Reynolds 1992:80; Scott 2002:67-77). To better handle the increasing volume of traffic, the more streamlined Highway 99 was constructed in 1933, now superceded by the modern Interstate 5 freeway.

In August 1924, work began on a dam that would create the St. Francis Reservoir in upper San Francisquito Canyon. William Mulholland, then Chief Engineer for the Los Angeles Bureau of Water Works and Supply, planned to route an aqueduct from Owens Valley through the canyon, bringing water and hydroelectric power to the metropolis, and the Newhall directors agreed to an easement for the project through the ranch. On March 12, 1928 the 185-foot-high dam collapsed, and a catastrophic flow of water surged down the canyon and into the Santa Clara River Valley, destroying everything in its path and taking more than 400 lives (Newhall 1958:83; Outland 1977; Mulholland 2000:319-321). The site of the St. Francis Dam collapse is designated California Historical Landmark No. 919 (Office of Historic Preservation 1996:107).

#### 4.0 METHODOLOGY

#### 4.1 CULTURAL RESOURCES

#### 4.1.1 Records Search

A cultural resources records search for the Lyons Canyon Ranch project was conducted by staff of the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) at California State University, Fullerton on October 14, 2004 (Records Search #4741.2214, Appendix B). The SCCIC is the designated branch of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) maintaining records on archaeological and built-environment resources located in Los Angeles County. The records search provided information on all cultural resources and previous studies that have been recorded within one mile of the project. The SCCIC reviewed archaeological records, Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility (DOE) listings, historic maps, the California Historic Resources Inventory (HRI) for Santa Clarita and vicinity, and the City of Los Angeles inventory of Historic-Cultural Monuments. The HRI contains listings for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), California Register of Historica Resources (CRHR), State Historical Landmarks (SHL), and California Points of Historical Interest (PHI).

#### 4.1.2 Section 106 Consultation

In compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the resource identification effort included consultation with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in Sacramento regarding the possibility of special Native American sites in the project vicinity. On October 13, 2004, the NAHC reviewed the sacred lands file and prepared a list of local representatives who could be contacted in regard to the project. On October 15, 2004, BonTerra Consulting contacted the Native American representative directly associated with the Santa Clarita area – Mr. John Valenzuela, Chairperson of the San Fernando Band of Mission Indians in Newhall (Appendix C).

Also in compliance with Section 106, the identification effort included consultation with local historical groups regarding the possibility of non-Native American historic-era sites or resources in the vicinity of the project that might not be identified in state or county inventories. BonTerra Consulting contacted the following organizations (Appendix D):

- Historical Society of Southern California, Los Angeles
- San Fernando Valley Historical Society, Mission Hills
- Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society, Newhall
- William S. Hart County Park and Museum, Newhall

#### 4.1.3 Archaeological Field Survey

A systematic archaeological field survey of the project site was conducted by Richard Shepard, M.A. of BonTerra Consulting on October 11 and 13 and November 3, 2004. Mr. Shepard is a Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA) qualified under CEQA and Secretary of the Interior Standards (Appendix A). The project site was walked in parallel transects averaging 15 meters in width and oriented east-west in flat areas near the mouth of Lyon Canyon and north-south in the canyon's narrow upper reaches. Ridgelines exhibiting a possibility of retaining archaeological materials were walked according to their axes. Steep slopes were not surveyed because gravity and erosion prevent retention of archaeological materials on such landforms. Ground visibility ranged from good (on ridgelines) to poor (in canyon bottoms) because of variable vegetation. A Magellan Meridian Global Positioning System (GPS) unit was carried to accurately map any resources encountered, and a Canon EOS 2000 35-millimeter camera was used for general purpose photographs. The survey required about 32 hours to complete.

#### 4.1.4 Technical Report

This report has been prepared in accordance with Archaeological Resource Management Report (ARMR) guidelines recommended by the California Office of Historic Preservation (1990).

#### 4.2 PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

#### 4.2.1 Records Search and Literature Review

To meet additional requirements under CEQA in the general category of Cultural Resources, a paleontological resources records search and literature review for the project site was conducted by Samuel McLeod, Ph.D., a qualified paleontologist in the Vertebrate Paleontology Section of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (NHMLAC) on October 5, 2004 (Appendix E). The NHMLAC is the designated repository for records concerning fossil resources and localities in Los Angeles County. The records search and literature review provided data on fossil types and localities recorded within a wide radius of the project.

#### 5.0 RESULTS

#### 5.1 CULTURAL RESOURCES

#### 5.1.1 Records Search Results

#### **Previous Research**

The SCCIC reported that at least 16 previous studies have been conducted within one mile of the project (see bibliography in Appendix B). Six of these consisted of archaeological surveys that covered various portions of the project site, summarized in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1
-PREVIOUS SURVEYS WITHIN THE PROJECT SITE

SCCIC Report No.	Author(s) and Year	Total Coverage, Relative Portion of the Current Project Site, and Resources Identified
LA-23	Nelson (no date)	175 acres (approx.), northernmost edge of the project site, no resources
LA-103	Singer 1975	50 acres (approx.), southeast corner of the project site, no resources
LA-1062	Schliz 1981	470 acres, western and northern areas of the project site, no resources
LA-2950	Peak and Associates 1992	172 acres, eastern edge of the project site, no resources (in the vicinity of the project site)
LA-3000	Simon and Whitley 1993	225 acres, western and northern areas of the project site, unspecified resources
LA-5533 Smith 2000		1 linear mile, eastern side of the project site, no resources

The data in Table 1 show that even though various portions of the project site were examined by a number of previous surveys, no resources were identified within the Lyons Canyon Ranch Specific Plan project area. Based on these results, one would predict that few or no resources would be identified in unsurveyed areas of the project site as a result of this investigation.

#### **Previously Recorded Resources**

The SCCIC reported that four archaeological sites and four isolated features have been recorded within one mile of the project, all within Towsley Canyon south of the project. The four archaeological sites are summarized below in Table 2.

TABLE 2
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES RECORDED WITHIN ONE MILE OF THE PROJECT

SCCIC Designation	Year Recorded	Site Description
CA-LAN-802	1977	Prehistoric site consisting of two lithic artifacts
CA-LAN-1592H	1989	Historic site consisting of wood and metal structural debris, abandoned appliances, and other refuse; materials appeared to be more recent than historic, probably post-World War II
CA-LAN-1593H	1989	Historic site consisting of large concrete slab and sparse scatter of glass, ceramic, and metal artifacts; possibly associated with oil exploration activities
CA-LAN-1598	1989	Historic (?) Native American site consisting of a sandstone rockshelter containing black and red pictographs (rock paintings) depicting historic-era themes (e.g., buildings); no artifacts

The four isolated features include wooden bridge remnants and refuse scatter (19-100356), large metal oil tank (19-100357), subsurface well lined with sandstone boulders (19-100358), and an unknown feature (19-100359; SCCIC reports that the record is missing). It is not known whether these features are still present in their recorded locations.

The nearest of these resources is CA-LAN-802, recorded 500 feet south of and well downslope from the south-central edge of the project, along the northern side of Towsley Canyon. The site was described in 1977 as consisting of only two artifacts (basalt core and chalcedony blade). It is not known whether these artifacts are still present in their recorded location.

The SCCIC reported that the current edition of the Los Angeles County HRI (August 3, 2004; Appendix B) lists only two historic properties within one mile of the project: "Old Road Bridge" and "Oak of the Golden Dream" (SHL No. 168). BonTerra Consulting concluded that Old Road Bridge (097731) is not located on the segment of the Old Road between Pico Canyon Road/Lyons Avenue north of the project and Calgrove Boulevard south of the project. While the commemorative plaque for Oak of the Golden Dream is positioned at the southeast corner of Interstate 5 and Lyons Avenue (0.5 mile north of the project), the actual site of the historic tree, which marks the spot where gold was discovered in 1842, is located in Placerita Canyon State Park/Natural Area some four miles east of the project.

The following archival maps in which the project area appears were reviewed by the SCCIC and/or BonTerra Consulting for evidence of early development within the site:

- 1903 USGS Camulos 30' Quadrangle, surveyed 1893 and 1900-1901
- 1903 USGS Santa Susana 15' Quadrangle, surveyed 1900
- [no date] USGS Newhall 6' Quadrangle, surveyed 1925-1929 (pre-1933 advance sheet)
- 1933 USGS Newhall 6' Quadrangle, surveyed 1925-1929
- 1941 USGS Santa Susana 15' Quadrangle, aerial photos 1940-1941
- 1952 USGS Newhall 7.5' Quadrangle, aerial photography 1947
- 1969 USGS Newhall 7.5' Quadrangle, revision of 1952 edition (aerial photos 1969)

The 1903 quadrangles show no circa 1900 development (structures, roads, wells, or other cultural features) within the project site. No roads are shown in or adjacent to the project site nor are there any indications of nineteenth century oil speculation by Sanford Lyon.

The 1933 quadrangle (based on surveys in 1925-1929) shows three structures and a drainage feature within the project site. These include a structure near the confluence of the two main drainages in the project site (southeast quarter of southeast quarter of southwest quarter of Section 4), two structures roughly 1,400 feet south of that point (southeast quarter of northeast quarter of northwest quarter of section 9), and a small check dam roughly 1,250 feet northwest of the second point (northeast quarter of northwest quarter of northwest quarter of Section 9), all linked by an unimproved road through Lyon Canyon. U.S. Highway 99, constructed in 1930, is shown as a single-width roadway passing by the eastern side of the project site. The highway is not paralleled in this location by a secondary road where the Old Road is today.

The 1941 quadrangle (based on aerial photos taken in 1940-1941) shows the unimproved road within the project site as indicated by the previous quadrangle, but the circa 1925-1929 structures no longer appear. Two different structures are shown next to the western edge of U.S. Highway 99 (single-width roadway) along the eastern periphery of the project site. No secondary road appears next to the highway where the Old Road is today.

The 1952 quadrangle (based on aerial photos taken in 1947) shows that the two structures along the eastern periphery of the project site had been removed, probably as a result of improvements to U.S. Highway 99, which had by this time been widened to a divided roadway (see Wright and Scorza 2000b:28). Other structures are shown in the approximate locations of those depicted in the 1933 quadrangle, as well as a structure on a hillside near the northeast corner of the project site. Again, no secondary road appears next to the highway where the Old Road is today. The Old Road does not appear in its current alignment next to the project site until revisions to the quadrangle were made in 1969 (additions and changes indicated in purple). Several additional structures had appeared within the project site by that time.

#### 5.1.2 Section 106 Consultation Results

The NAHC reported that the sacred lands file did not indicate any special Native American sites or resources in the vicinity of the project (Appendix C). Local Native American representative John Valenzuela stated that he has general concerns about this and other projects in the Santa Clarita-Canyon Country area, but did not identify any specific sites or resource locations nor indicate that the project would affect any such locations (see response in Appendix C).

No responses were received from any of the local historical groups contacted in regard to the possibility of locally important or unrecorded historic-era sites in the project vicinity.

#### 5.1.3 Field Survey Results

No archaeological sites or potentially significant resources were identified within the project site during the field survey. No standing buildings are present in the project site. No evidence of prehistoric or historic-era archaeological deposits was observed. Although the check dam shown in the 1933 quadrangle remains in place, no evidence of any early buildings could be identified. The only visible structure-related remains consist of the following:

 generic concrete slabs, small concrete shed, asphalt road surfaces, wire fencing, and power poles (charred by recent wildfires) in the area near the confluence of the two main drainages (southeast quarter of southeast quarter of southwest quarter of Section 4)

- generic wire fencing, livestock watering trough, and power poles (charred by recent wildfires) in the area south of the first location (southeast quarter of northeast quarter of northwest quarter of Section 9)
- check dam constructed of poured concrete with square steel "re-bar" and a steel outlet valve embossed with WALWORTH, situated in a small V-shaped side canyon (northeast quarter of northwest quarter of Section 9)
- graded, asphalt-covered pad and small diameter water pipe in the location of a structure shown by the 1952 quadrangle on a hillside near the northeast corner of the project site (southeast quarter of northwest quarter of southwest quarter of southeast quarter of Section 4) – probably a pump shed or water tank

The only observed evidence of early activity in the project site consists of the concrete check dam, which dates to the 1920s according to USGS quadrangles. Lengths of exposed "re-bar" across the top edge indicate that an additional upper portion or tier was present but is now missing. The cavity behind the dam is heavily silted in. The check dam is generic in design and materials and as an incomplete isolated feature is not a potentially significant resource.

The Old Road along the eastern side of the project site, by virtue of its name, is suggestive of a historic-era feature, but USGS quadrangles show that it did not exist in its present alignment until after World War II and perhaps not until the 1960s (first appears as a purple addition in the 1969 revised quadrangle). The name appears to memorialize a road that was built through Weldon Canyon/Gavin Canyon during 1929 as an alternative to "the old road" (San Fernando Road, at the time the main link between Los Angeles, Newhall, and areas to the north [Scott 2002:60-61, 87]). The alternate route was needed because a narrow tunnel on San Fernando Road south of Newhall caused bottleneck traffic congestion. The Weldon Canyon cut-off road, as it was known, was only 20 feet wide and was erased, as indicated by USGS quadrangles, when overlain in 1933 by U.S. Highway 99 (known as the Ridge Alternate because it provided a streamlined alternative to the original Ridge Route of 1915). By 1972, U.S. Highway 99 itself had been overlain in this area by Interstate 5, the Golden State Freeway (see Wright and Scorza 2000b:47). Thus, the Old Road adjacent to the project site is a relatively recent feature.

#### 5.2 PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

#### 5.2.1 Records Search and Literature Review Results

According to the NHMLAC, flatlands and canyon floors within the project site are composed primarily of relatively recent alluvium, and these areas, therefore, are not likely to contain significant fossil resources. Uplifted slopes, ridges, and associated bedrock within the project site, however, are composed of either the non-marine Saugus Formation (roughly the northeastern two-thirds of the project site) or slightly older marine Pico Formation (roughly the southwestern one-third of the project site). Both formations originated during the Pliocene epoch some 5 million years ago, and both are known to contain significant vertebrate fossil remains (see Appendix E).

The NHMLAC reported that two fossil localities, LACM 6145 and 6146, occur in or near the southeastern corner of the project site. These localities produced fossilized shark and fish characteristic of the marine Pico Formation, including bull shark (*Carcharhinus*), basking shark (*Cetorhinus*), guitarfish (*Rhinobatos*), sheepshead (*Semicossyphus*), and eagle ray (*Myliobatis*). Other fossil localities from the Pico and Saugus Formations are also recorded in the general area and are summarized in Table 3 below.

# TABLE 3 FOSSIL LOCALITIES RECORDED IN THE VICINITY OF THE PROJECT

NHMLAC Designation	General Area of Discovery	Geologic Formation and Description of Fossil(s)
LACM 1931	Santa Susana area	Pico Formation: rare right whale, Balaenidae
LACM 5456	Brown's Canyon	Pico Formation: bonito shark, Isurus planus, white shark, Carcharocles
LACM 6145	Project site	Pico Formation: bull shark, Carcharhinus, basking shark Cetorhinus, guitarfish Rhinobatos, sheepshead Semicossyphus, eagle ray, Myliobatis
LACM 6146	Project site	Pico Formation: bull shark, Carcharhinus, basking shark Cetorhinus, guitarfish Rhinobatos, sheepshead Semicossyphus, eagle ray, Myliobatis
LACM 6601	San Fernando area	Saugus Formation: deer and rare tapir, Tapirus merriami (scientific paper)
LACM 6803	Saugus area	Saugus Formation: dog, Canidae, horse, Equus, camel, Camelidae
LACM 6804	Saugus area	Saugus Formation: dog, Canidae, horse, Equus, camel, Camelidae
LACM 6871	Saugus area	Saugus Formation: dog, Canidae, horse, Equus, camel, Camelidae

The NHMLAC concluded that excavations within the project site in areas other than canyon floors, where relatively recent alluvium predominates, are likely to encounter significant vertebrate fossil resources (see Appendix E).

#### 6.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 6.1 CULTURAL RESOURCES

The cultural resources records search showed that even though portions of the project site were examined during six previous surveys, no resources were identified or recorded within the project site. The NAHC, local Native American representative, and local historical groups that were consulted did not identify any sites or resources in the immediate vicinity of the project.

A review of historic USGS quadrangles showed that the earliest constructed features in the project site consisted of three structures and a drainage feature (small check dam) in Lyon Canyon during the 1920s, decades after oil speculation by pioneer Sanford Lyon. All three structures were removed by 1941, with later buildings placed in these areas after World War II.

No archaeological sites or potentially significant resources were identified within the project site as a result of the field survey. No standing buildings are present in the project site, and no evidence of historic-era archaeological deposits was observed. No evidence of oil speculation by Sanford Lyon was observed. The small check dam, constructed of poured concrete and reinforced with steel "re-bar", remains in place but is missing an upper tier. As an incomplete isolated feature that is generic in design and materials, BonTerra Consulting concludes that the check dam does not have a potential to yield important historical information and is therefore not significant as an historical resource according to CEQA. Under CEQA, historical resources are defined as buildings, structures, districts, sites, or objects that are eligible for the California Register of Historic Resources (CEQA Guidelines §§15064.5.a.3, PRC §§5020.1.j, 5024.1.c). The eligibility criteria for the California Register are similar to those for the National Register, under which a resource must be shown to be important in American prehistory or history (i.e., national-level significance). The check dam is not eligible for either the California Register of National Register. Any project-related impacts to it, therefore, will not constitute an adverse effect on a significant resource as defined under CEQA or the National Register.

According to USGS quadrangles, the Old Road along the eastern side of the project site is not an historic feature, the present alignment dating to after World War II and as late as the 1960s. Realignment and other project-related improvements to the roadway, therefore, will not constitute an adverse effect on a significant resource as defined under CEQA or the National Register.

Grass and leaf cover and recent alluvial soils may be obscuring evidence of prehistoric or early historic activities on the floor of Lyon Canyon. BonTerra Consulting, therefore, recommends archaeological monitoring of grading on the canyon floor to mitigate adverse impacts to possible buried cultural deposits to a level of insignificance. Grading in proximity to a narrow hillside cleft near the southeast corner of the project site should also be monitored because a buildup of colluvium in front of this natural feature may obscure evidence of prehistoric use (possible rockshelter). The monitoring program should be directed by a qualified archaeologist and should consist of the recovery, cataloguing, analysis, and reporting of archaeological materials. A pre-grade meeting should be conducted in which the project archaeologist shall explain the procedures necessary to protect and safely remove potentially significant cultural materials.

If potential archaeological evidence is inadvertently discovered during grading in non-monitored areas, work in that location should be diverted until the project archaeologist assesses the find. The project proponent will then be notified if the materials are potentially significant, and the archaeologist may recommend further study. If human remains are discovered, the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office must be notified immediately under state law, and all activities in that area must cease until appropriate and lawful measures have been implemented. If the Coroner determines that the remains are Native American, the NAHC must also be contacted. The NAHC will designate a Most Likely Descendent (MLD) who will make recommendations concerning the disposition of the remains in consultation with the property owner and project archaeologist.

#### 6.2 PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

A paleontological resources records search and literature review showed that the project site is composed of relatively recent alluvium in canyon bottoms and the fossil-bearing Saugus and Pico Formations in adjacent hillsides and ridges. Two fossil localities are recorded in or near the southeast corner of the project site, and significant fossils have been recovered from the Saugus and Pico Formations at other localities in the general vicinity. Fossilized marine shell material is currently visible in some areas of the project site, particularly in the south. BonTerra Consulting concurs with the NHMLAC in recommending monitoring of grading in hillsides, ridges, and associated bedrock to reduce impacts to significant fossil resources to a level of insignificance. Monitoring activities should include periodic screening of sediment samples to identify potential microfossil materials (see Appendix E). Sediment samples may be removed in bulk and screened off-site to minimize interference with grading operations. The monitoring program should be directed by a qualified paleontologist and should consist of the recovery, preparation (to a point of identification), and cataloguing of fossil materials. A pre-grade meeting should be conducted in which the project paleontologist shall explain the procedures necessary to protect and safely remove potentially significant fossil materials for study and curation at the NHMLAC.

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# APPENDIX A

### Professional Qualifications



M.A., Archaeology, University of California, Los Angeles, Institute of Archaeology, 1997
 Graduate Studies (Anthropology), California State University, Long Beach, 1993-94
 Extension Studies (Archaeology), University of California, Los Angeles, 1991-93
 B.A., Journalism, California State University, Fresno, 1979

Mr. Shepard specializes in Cultural Resource Management (CRM) under CEQA, NEPA, and local regulations. During more than nine years of professional experience, he has directed or contributed to projects in many area of southern and central California. He is skilled in a wide range of field and administrative tasks fundamental to CRM and has written more than 100 technical reports. While his research interests have focused on prehistoric rock art, his training also includes archival research in evaluating historic resources and properties. Mr. Shepard is a Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA) qualified under Secretary of the Interior standards.

#### Representative Project Experience:

Project Manager/Principal Investigator for Phase I cultural resources assessment of 65-acre site planned as the UCLA Film and Television Archive Preservation Center in Santa Clarita, northern Los Angeles County, California. Project required a Section 404 permit from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) was therefore subject to Section 106. Identified and recorded a ca. 1930s oil drilling site with scattered remains of an associated brick "still" used to heat and test crude oil. Archaeological surface data and documentary records indicated that the site was nearly identical to CA-LAN-1445H in San Francisquito Canyon (see below). Information obtained through Environmental Data Research (EDR) showed that the well was essentially "dry" and had been abandoned. Based on striking similarities to CA-LAN-1445H, site was determined not to represent a significant resource under CEQA or Section 106, and a Phase II evaluation was waived, with mitigation via DPR 523 recordation and monitoring.

Client: UCLA Film & Television Archive Preservation Center, BAR Architects, 2004

Principal Investigator for Phase II archaeological evaluation in a 186-acre development site in San Francisquito Canyon near Santa Clarita, northern Los Angeles County, California. Conducted archival research and archaeological backhoe trenching of previously recorded site CA-LAN-1445H, consisting of two ca. 1930 oil wells and an associated brick "still" used to heat and test crude oil. Although the buried still was previously unknown and discovered by trenching, the resource was determined not to be significant under CEQA because it was not associated with any formative events or individuals or unique construction types of the early oil industry in the region. EDR data showed that the wells were "dry holes" and had been abandoned. Still's metal components had been removed and likely used elsewhere.

Client: Vesting Tentative Tract No. 53189, Burnam Site, SunCal Companies, 2003

Field Director for Phase I cultural resources assessment of 6-acre project area proposed as an education-oriented park facility for the public by the Palmdale Water District in Palmdale, northern Los Angeles County, California. The park is designed to provide information on water conservation techniques, the importance of water recycling, and local water history. The District's application for a federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant required that the project comply with Section 106. No resources were found within or adjacent to the property, and the project received concurrence under SHPO review.

Client: Water Conservation Garden Park, Palmdale Water District, 2003



Project Manager/Principal Investigator for mitigation monitoring program for the Diamond Bar Community and Senior Center in Diamond Bar, eastern Los Angeles County, California. Although no archaeological evidence was observed during monitoring of the Community and Senior Center site, deep grading (100 vertical feet) uncovered a number of rare and significant fossil specimens of deep water fishes. The fossils were speciated and curated in the Vertebrate Paleontology Division of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

Client: Diamond Bar Community and Senior Center, City of Diamond Bar, 2002

Field Director for Phase I archaeological survey of 60 linear miles of the Level (3) *Long Haul* fiber-optic cable installation along the Union Pacific Railroad from Tehachapi to the Cajon Pass, southern Mojave Desert, Kern, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino Counties, California. Supervised field crew in intensive, mile-by-mile survey of the UPRR rail corridor in extreme heat, relocating previously-recorded resources and identifying unrecorded resources. Accurate mapping of sites in relation to the railroad easement was crucial because of engineering constraints posed by existing utilities. Prepared DPR 523 records for ten newly-identified resources consisting mostly of railroad-related historic sites and features.

Client: WS04 Inland Route, Level (3) Network Communications, 1999

Field Director and analyst for re-assessment of the Shinn Road Bridge in San Antonio Canyon, Angeles National Forest (ANF) near Claremont, southeastern Los Angeles County, California. The bridge required replacement by Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW). After a previous report had been rejected by ANF staff, the documentation was re-analyzed and re-written to satisfy the requirements of ANF Heritage Resources. The new report was accepted, and the county bridge was approved to be removed and replaced.

Client: Shinn Road Bridge over San Antonio Creek, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, 2001

Project Archaeologist for archaeological survey of a large flood control basin located partially in the City of Long Beach (southeastern Los Angeles County) and partially in the City of Seal Beach (northwestern Orange County), California. The County of Orange Public Facilities and Resources Department (PFRD) proposes to deepen the basin and replace the 1950s-era pump station with a modern facility. Archaeological monitoring of all grading activities was recommended because of the high density of prehistoric sites in the vicinity. Additionally, a historic architectural evaluation of the existing pump station was recommended because of the station's age and because of its engineering aspects, including the use of engines originally designed for service on a World War II aircraft carrier.

Client: Los Alamitos Pump Station and Retarding Basin, RBF Consulting, 2003

Field Director for Phase I archaeological survey of 723 acres for National Cement's Lebec Plant mine expansion area south of Bakersfield near Gorman, Kern County, California. Supervised field crew in topographically complex project area involving rugged mountainous terrain with elevations ranging from 3,900 to 5,400 feet. The mine property is owned by Tejon Ranch and leased by National Cement Company for their Lebec Plant operations. No archaeological or historic resources were identified during the survey, a result owing to the high elevation of the property, steep terrain, and a general lack of flowing water.

Client: National Cement Lebec Plant, Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, 2000



Field Director of Phase I field surveys for Level (3) fiber optic cable trenching and In-Line Amplifier (ILA) station installation in San Joaquin Valley locations in Kern, Kings, Fresno, Merced, San Joaquin Counties, California. Surveys covered potential ILA sites and connection corridors in or near the cities of Hanford, Fresno, Merced, and Stockton, as well as near Monolith (Kern County) and Littlerock (Los Angeles County). The Merced ILA site required historic archival research about past ownership of the property to illuminate the potential for significant historic archaeological deposits, but none were identified. Historic archaeological deposits were encountered at the Stockton site within a city street easement.

Client: WS04 Inland Route, Level (3) Network Communications, 2001

Field Director for Phase III data recovery excavations at three prehistoric archaeological sites within a fiber-optic cable installation corridor in the Tehachapi Mountains east of Bakersfield, Kern County, California. Supervised five-person field crew in controlled excavation units at specific points within CA-KER-1558, CA-KER-3367, and CA-KER-3370 where the angle of subsurface boring for the cable could be realigned with minimal impact to the resources. Coordinated with Native American monitors in the field during all excavations.

Client: WS04 Tehachapi Workaround, Level (3) Network Communications, 2000

Principal Investigator for Phase I archaeological survey of two one-mile roadway easements between SR 118 and proposed North Park Village in Moorpark, Ventura County, California. One alignment will be selected for direct access to the development from the freeway to avoid additional traffic through Moorpark College. Of the four actual or potential prehistoric sites recorded in or near the alignments, two may be avoided, and a third requires no archaeological evaluation (test excavation). Site CA-VEN-1131 was identified within both alignments and cannot be avoided, and an evaluation (test excavation) was recommended.

Client: North Park Village Connector Road, City of Moorpark, 2002

#### **Professional Experience:**

BonTerra Consulting, Managing Archaeologist–2002 to Present Chambers Group, Inc., Senior Archaeologist–1999-2002 McKenna et al., Field Director Archaeologist–1994-1999 Archaeological Resource Management Corp., Field Archaeologist, 1994

#### Registrations, Certifications, and Affiliations:

Register of Professional Archaeologists (ROPA, formerly SOPA), 2001

County of Orange Certification, 2002

County of San Diego Certification, 2002

County of Riverside Approved, 2002

Society for American Archaeology (SAA)

Society for California Archaeology (SCA)

Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA)

American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA)

UCLA Rock Art Archive, Institute of Archaeology

Nature Conservancy of California

Archaeological Conservancy

# APPENDIXE

### Cultural Resources Records Search

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#### **South Central Coastal Information Center**

California Historical Resources Information System
California State University, Fullerton
Department of Anthropology
800 North State College Boulevard
Fullerton, CA 92834-6846
714.278.5395 / FAX 714.278.5542
anthro.fullerton.edu/sccic.html - sccic@fullerton.edu

Ventura Los Angeles Orange

October 14, 2004

SCCIC # 4741.2214

Mr. Richard Shepard BonTerra Consulting 151 Kalmus Dr, Suite E-200 Costa Mesa, CA 92626 (714) 444-9199

RE: RBF J171 Lyons Canyon Ranch

Dear Mr. Shepard,

As per your request received on October 05, 2004, a records search was conducted for the above referenced project. This search includes a review of all recorded archaeological sites within a 1-mile radius of the project site as well as a review of cultural resource reports on file. In addition, the California Points of Historical Interest (PHI), the California Historical Landmarks (CHL), the California Register of Historic Places (CR), the National Register of Historic Places (NR), the California State Historic Resources Inventory (HRI), and the City of Los Angeles Cultural Monuments listings were reviewed for the above referenced project. The following is a discussion of the findings.

#### New Hall and Oat Mountain, CA. 7.5' USGS Quadrangles

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

Four archaeological sites (19-000802, 19-001592, 19-001593, and 19-001598) have been identified within a 1-mile radius of the project site. No archaeological sites are located within the project site. None are listed on the National Register Archaeological Determination of Eligibility list. Four isolates (19-100356, 19-100357, 19-100358, and 19-100359) have been identified within a 1-mile radius of the project site. No isolates are located within the project site. Isolate site record 19-100359 was not available for photocopying.

#### **HISTORIC RESOURCES:**

No additional cultural resources have been identified within a 1-mile radius of the project site.

Copies of our historic maps – Santa Susana (1903 and 1941) 15' USGS - are enclosed for your review.

The California Point of Historical Interest (2004) of the Office of Historic Preservation, Department of Parks and Recreation, lists no properties within a 1-mile radius of the project site.

The California Historical Landmarks (2004) of the Office of Historic Preservation, Department of Parks and Recreation, lists one property within a 1-mile radius of the project site (see below).

No. 168

#### Oak of the Golden Dream

In March 1842, Francisco Lopez y Araballo, while gathering wild onions from around an old oak in Placerita Canyon, discovered gold particles clinging to the roots of the bulbs. It is estimated that \$80,000 in gold was recovered as a result of this discovery. Located at: Site: Placerita Canyon State and County Park, Placerita Canyon Rd, 4.6 mi NE of Newhall (Los Angeles) Plaque: SE corner I-5 and Lyons Ave, Newhall 19-186541

The California Register of Historic Places lists no properties within a 1-mile radius of the project area.

The National Register of Historic Places (2004) lists no properties within a 1-mile radius of the project site.

The City of Los Angeles Cultural Monuments lists no properties within a 1-mile radius of the project site.

The California Historic Resources Inventory (2004) lists two properties that have been evaluated for historical significance within a 1-mile radius of the project site (see enclosed list).

#### PREVIOUS CULTURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS:

Sixteen studies (LA23\*, LA103\*, LA290, LA510, LA578, LA842, LA1062\*1978, LA2305, LA2950\*, LA3000\*, LA3289, LA3309, LA4008, LA5533\*, and LA5855) have been conducted within a 1-mile radius of the project site. Of these, six are located within the project site. There are fifteen additional investigations located on the New Hall and Oat Mountain 7.5' USGS Quadrangles that are potentially within a 1-mile radius of the project site. These reports are not mapped due to insufficient locational information.

(\* = Located within the project site)

Please forward a copy of any reports from this project to the office as soon as possible. Due to the sensitive nature of archaeological site location data, we ask that you **do not include** records search maps in your report. If you have any questions regarding the results presented herein, contact the office at 714.278.5395 Monday through Thursday 8:00 am to 3:30 pm.

Should you require any additional information for the above referenced project, reference the SCCIC number listed above when making inquiries. Requests made after initial invoicing will result in the preparation of a separate invoice.

Sincerely, SCCIC

Thomas D. Shackford Staff Researcher

#### **Enclosures:**

- (X) Map 7.5' USGS Quadrangle, 15' USGS Quadrangle
- (X) Bibliography- 6 pages
- (X) HRI pages
- (X) National Register Status Codes
- (X) Mapped Historic Resources Binder 1 page
- (X) Site Records- 19-000802, 19-001592, 19-001593, 19-001598, 19-100356, 19-100357, and 19-100358
- (X) Confidentiality Form
- (X) Invoice # 4741.2214

### Bibliography: RBF J171 Lyons Canyon Ranch

IC ID#: LA103

**DATE: 1975** 

PAGES: 8

AUTHOR: Singer, Clay A.

FIRM: UCLA Archaeological Survey

TITLE: Archaeological Resource Survey of Portions of the South Fork, Santa Clara River, Los Angeles

County, California

AREA:

SITES: None

QUADNAME: Newhall, Oat Mountain

MEMO:

IC ID#: LA1062

**DATE: 1981** 

PAGES: 11

AUTHOR: Schliz, Allen J.

FIRM: Westec Services, Inc.

TITLE: Archaeological Survey of the Sylmar Development Project Site, Los Angeles County, California

AREA: 470 ac SITES: None

QUADNAME: Oat Mountian

MEMO:

IC ID#: LA1978

**DATE: 1990** 

PAGES: 34

**AUTHOR:** Salls, Roy A.

FIRM: NORTHRIDGE CENTER FOR PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY, CSUN

TITLE: Report of Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey of Santa

Clarita, CA-Newhall Carrier Annex Environmental Assessment, ESA Project Number 9094C

Newhall California

AREA: 5 ac

SITES: None

QUADNAME: Oat Mountain

MEMO:

### Bibliography: RBF J171 Lyons Canyon Ranch

IC ID#: LA23

DATE:

PAGES: 6

AUTHOR: Leonard, N. Nelson III

FIRM: UCLA Archaeological SURVEY

TITLE: Archaeological Reconnaissance of Tentative Tract # 31399,

A Residential Development Near Newhall California

AREA:

SITES: None

QUADNAME: Newhall

Oat Mtn

MEMO:

should be LAZZOS Edge of project. **DATE: 1991** 

PAGES: 9

AUTHOR: Singer, Clay A. and John E. Atwood

FIRM: SINGER & Associates, INC.

TITLE: Cultural Resources Survey and Impact Assessment for 17 Acres

Near the Intersection of Saddle Peak Road and Swenson Drive in Malibu, Los Angeles County,

AREA:

SITES: None

QUADNAME: Malibu Beach

**TOPANGA** 

MEMO:

### Bibliography: RBF J171 Lyons Canyon Ranch

IC ID#: LA290

**DATE:** 1976

PAGES: 6

AUTHOR: Desautels, Roger J.

FIRM: Scientific Resource Survey, Inc.

TITLE: Archaeological Survey Report on

Acre Parcel of Land Located in the Newhall Area of the County of Los Angeles, California.

AREA: 53 ac SITES: None

QUADNAME: Oat Mountain

MEMO:

IC ID#: LA2950

**DATE:** 1992

**PAGES: 356** 

**AUTHOR:** Anonymous

FIRM: PEAK AND Associates

TITLE: Consolidated Report: Cultural Resource Studies for the

Proposed Pacific Pipeline Project

**AREA:** 172 ac SITES: See Report

QUADNAME: SEE REPORT

MEMO:

IC ID#: LA3000

**DATE: 1993** 

PAGES: 31

AUTHOR: Simon, Joseph M. and David S. Whitley

FIRM: W and S Consultants

TITLE: Phase I Archaeological Survey and Cultural Resources

Assessment for the 225 Acres Alternative Site 2 Study area, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County,

California

AREA: 225 ac

SITES:

QUADNAME: Oat Mountain

MEMO:

## Bibliography: RBF J171 Lyons Canyon Ranch

IC ID#: LA578

**DATE: 1979** 

PAGES: 14

AUTHOR: BAKSH, MICHAEL G.

FIRM:

TITLE: Archaeological Evaluation of Tentative Tract NO.35555,

Los Angeles County, California

AREA: 42 ac SITES: none

QUADNAME: Oat Mountain

MEMO:

IC ID#: LA5855

**DATE: 2001** 

PAGES: 35

AUTHOR: Anonymous

FIRM: W & S Consultants

TITLE: Phase I Archaeological Survey of the 558 Acres Old Road Study Area, Los Angeles County,

California

AREA: 558 ac SITES: None

QUADNAME: Oat Mountain

MEMO:

IC ID#: LA842

**DATE: 1977** 

PAGES: 9

AUTHOR: Singer, Clay A.

FIRM: ARI

TITLE: Archaeological Survey and Cultural Resource Assessment for A

PORTION of TOWSLEY CANYON, NEAR NEWHALL, Los Angeles County, CALIforNIA

AREA: 240 ac

SITES: CA-LAN-802

QUADNAME: Oat Mountain

MEMO:

## Bibliography: RBF J171 Lyons Canyon Ranch

IC ID#: LA4008

**DATE: 1996** 

**PAGES: 220** 

AUTHOR: Unkwon

FIRM: Science Applications Internatinal Corporation

TITLE: Cultural Resources Investigation Pacific Pipeline Emidio Route

AREA: 70 li mi

SITES:

QUADNAME: Ritter Ridge, Sleepy Valley, Agua Dulce, Oat Mountain, Rosemond, Lancaster West, Lancaster East

**MEMO:** 

IC ID#: LA510

**DATE: 1979** 

PAGES: 15

AUTHOR: VAN HORN, DAVID M.

FIRM: Archaeological Associates, LTD.

TITLE: PRELIMINARY Archaeological OVERVIEW: A 3,000+/- ACRE Parcel

BORDERING PORTRERO CANYON NEAR NEWHALL, CA.

AREA: 3000 ac

SITES: CA-LAN-1020

QUADNAME: NEWHALL

VAL VERDE

MEMO:

IC ID#: LA5533

**DATE: 2000** 

PAGES: 4

AUTHOR: Smith, Philomene C.

FIRM: Caltrans District 7

TITLE: Negative Archaeological Report: rock-lined section and the addition of an access to paved

section of drainage channel near Interstate 5 in Santa Clarita

AREA: <1 li mi

SITES: none

QUADNAME: Oat Mountain

MEMO:

### Bibliography: RBF J171 Lyons Canyon Ranch

IC ID#: LA3289

**DATE: 1990** 

**PAGES: 174** 

AUTHOR: Davis, Gene

FIRM: Dames & Moore

TITLE: Mobil M-70 Pipeline Replacement Project Cultural Resource Survey Report for Mobil

Corporation

AREA: 92.05 mi

SITES: 19-001834,19-000990,19-001305,19-001835,19-000077,19-000991,19-000992,19-000634,19-

000938,19-000925,19-000927,19-000903,19-000926,19-000444,19-001015,19-000441,19-000248,19-00962,19-000823,19-000067,19-000194,19-000060,19-000059,19-000216,19-

000213,

19-000034,19-000475,19-000490,19-00491,19-000492,19-000493, 19-000643,19-000644,19-000645,19-000646,19-000408,19-000169, 19-000095,19-000409,19-000410,19-000411,19-000412,19-000960

QUADNAME: Frazier Mountian, Lebec, Black Mountain, Liebre Mountain, Whitaker Peak, Cobblestone Mtn., Wa

MEMO: Indexed. This report covers more area than the mapped survey areas.

IC ID#: LA3309

**DATE: 1988** 

PAGES: 12

**AUTHOR:** 

FIRM: Scientific Resource Surveys Inc.

TITLE: Preliminary Overview: Prehistoric and Historic Resources, Castaic Lake Water Agency Project

Area Los Angeles County, California

AREA: 119,200 ac

SITES:

QUADNAME: Warm Springs, Whitaker Peak, Val Verde, Santa Susana

San Fernando, Oat Mountain, Newhall, Mint Canyon, Agua Dulce

MEMO:

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NAMES	RESIDENCE			E NEWHALL, SAN FERNANDO RD/MARKET S	PATRICK J. COYLE RESIDENCE			TION STAGE COACH STOP	HOKSESHOE KANCH, WILLLIAM.S HAKT FA	OLD ROAD BRIDGE		NEWHALL OIL REFINERY; PIONEER OIL	OAK OF THE GOLDEN DREAM		SANTA CLARITA CO. COURTHOUSE, YE O							NEWHALL BANCH HOUSE		GAS STATION & GARAGE	SPRING VALLEY TIRES	CENTURY 21 REALTY/COUNSELING		HOWARD STOWITTS, DDS COMMERCIAL BLD	SHERIFFS SUBSTATION		THE NEEDLEWORKS COMMERCIAL BLDG			ANILYOES DOTY GARAGE		MAGNAVOX COMMERCIAL BLDGS	FANTASY FLOWERS COMMERCIAL BLDG		NEWHALL PHOTO CENTER	HOWDY CLEANERS	S & M INSURANCE COMMERCIAL BLDG		WESTERN STATES TROPHY CENTER	VALENCIA CICLERI	TRAIL COURT HOLD WHAT
STREET ADDRESS	22616 9TH ST	24154 ABCH	22410 ARCH ST	E NEWHALL	22500 MARKET ST			23287 N SIERRA SR	24151 NEWHALL AVE	OLD RD		PINE ST	PLACERITA CANYON RD	25017 RACE ST	24307 RAILROAD AVE	14748 SAN FERNANDO RD		22117 SAN FERNANDO RD	22117 SAN FERNANDO RD		22124 SAN FERNANDO RD	Ga Odnanaga nas 10185		24203 SAN FERNANDO RD	SAN FERNANDO	24206 SAN FERNANDO RD	SAN FERNANDO	24229 SAN FERNANDO RD	24238 SAN FERNANDO RD		24247 SAN FERNANDO RD		SAN FERNANDO	24251 SAN FERNANDO RD 24254 SAN FERNANDO RD		24258 SAN FERNANDO RD	GU OGNARAGA MAS 53626		24264 SAN FERNANDO RD		SAN		24270 SAN FERNANDO RD	SALVE ELLINATION	24311 SAN FERNANDO RD
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# APPENDIX C

Section 106: Native American Consultation





### TRANSMITTAL

DATE:	October	4, 2004					
TO:	Program Native A 915 Cap		Heritage C Rm. 364	omm	FAX NUMBER: TEL NUMBER: CLIENT CODE: PROJECT CODE: FROM:	Richar	(916) 657-5390 (916) 653-4082 RBF J171 d Shepard, M.A., RPA
Fax SUBJE	/ Pages		□ Mail		Fed Ex / California Ove	rnight	☐ Courier / Delivery
	ls. Gauba						

At your earliest convenience, please conduct a search of the Sacred Lands File for an approximately 350-acre project area located in the City of Santa Clarita, northern Los Angeles County.

The project involves development of the property for residential uses. Potential impacts to one or more jurisdictional drainages or wetland areas within the project area will require a Section 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, requiring cultural studies to be prepared in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

The project area appears on the USGS *Oat Mountain* 7.5' Quadrangle in the following Township/Range/Section location:

Township 3 North, Range 16 West, some of southern half of Section 4 Township 3 North, Range 16 West, most of northern half of Section 9 (San Bernardino Base and Meridian)

Please provide a list of Native American representatives corresponding to the Santa Clarita area who could be contacted in regard to this project.

Please fax the results to me at (714) 444-9599, referencing your letter to "Lyons Canyon Ranch, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County."

Thank you very much.

Richard Shepard

Cultural Resources Manager

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Arnold Schwarzenegger Governg

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 (916) 653-4082 Fax (916) 657-5390 Web Site www.nahc.ca.gov



October 13, 2004

Richard Shepard Bonterra Consulting 151 Kalmus Drive, #E-200 Costa Mesa, CA 92626-7969

Sent by Fax: 714-444-9599 Number of Pages: 2

RE: Proposed 350-acre residential project in the City of Santa Clarita; Los Angeles

County

Dear Mr. Shepard;

A record search of the sacred land file has failed to indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources in the immediate project area. The absence of specific site information in the sacred lands file 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.

Enclosed is a list of Native Americans individuals/organizations who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. The Commission makes no recommendation or preference of a single individual, or group over another. 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 or group. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you'receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from any of these individuals or groups, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our lists contain current information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 653-4040.

Sincerely.

Rob Wood

Environmental Specialist III

#### **Native American Contacts** Los Angeles County October 13, 2004

Charles Cooke

32835 Santiago Road

Acton , CA 93510 Chumash Fernandeno

(661) 269-1244

Tataviam Kitanemuk

Beverly Salazar Folkes

1931 Shadybrook Drive

, CA 91362

Chumash

Tataviam

805 492-7255

Thousand

Fernandeño

LA City/County Native American Indian Comm Ron Andrade, Director 3175 West 6th Street, Rm. 403 → CA 90020 Los Angeles (213) 351-5308 (213) 386-3995 FAX

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

John Valenzuela, Chairperson

P.O. Box 221838

Fernandeño

Newhalf

, CA 91322

Tataviam

tsen2u2@msn.com (661) 753-9833 Office Serrano

(760) 885-0955 Cell

Vanyume

(760) 949-2103 Home

Kitanemuk

Randy Guzman - Folkes

3044 East Street

Chumash

Simi Valley

, CA 93065-3929

Fernandeño

traditional75@hotmail.com

Tataviam

(805) 579-9206

Shoshone Paiute

(805) 797-5605 (cell)

Yadui

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  $\mathcal{P}$  Ty Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

ist is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed 350-acre residential project in the City of Santa Clarite; Los Angeles County.



An Environmental Planning/Resource
Management Corporation

55)

October 15, 2004

Mr. John Valenzuela, Chairperson San Fernando Band of Mission Indians Post Office Box 221838 Newhall, CA 91322-1838

Subject: Proposed Residential Development, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County

Dear Mr. Valenzuela:

Residential development is proposed for portions of an approximately 350-acre property located in the City of Santa Clarita, northern Los Angeles County, California. The new development, referred to as Lyons Canyon Ranch, will be constructed west of Interstate 5 (Golden State Freeway) and south of Pico Canyon Road in the area known as Stevenson Ranch (please see enclosed location map).

The project area is largely undeveloped and has burned in wildfires during recent years. Because of potential impacts to one or more drainages in the property, the project will be subject to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and thus must comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended.

An archaeological/historical records search has been requested from the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), California State University, Fullerton. A portion of The Old Road is adjacent to the project, but this portion is not part of the segment that has been determined to be significant (the segment within the Angeles National Forest to the north). William S. Hart Park is located 1.75 miles east of the project. Historic oil fields are located south and west of the project.

I would like to be fully informed about Native American resources in the vicinity of this project. If there are specific resources in or near this location that should be avoided by the project, please contact me in writing via standard mail or e-mail at rshepard@bonterraconsulting.com. In the absence of contact from you within two weeks of this date, I will assume that you do not wish to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

BONTERRA CONSULTING

would

Richard S. Shepard, M.A., RPA Cultural Resources Manager

Enclosure

R:\Projects\R8F\J171\Native American Letter Valenzuela-101504.doc

(E)





151 Kalmus Drive

.

Suite E-200

Costa Mesa

California 92626

(714) 444-9199

(714) 444-9599 fax



### **TELEPHONE CONVERSATION RECORD**

Date:         October 26, 2004         Time of Call:         9:44 a.m.
Staff: Richard Shepard, Cultural Resources Manager
Project Number: RBF J171
Project Name: Lyons Canyon Ranch, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County
Subject: local Native American consultation
CONTACT
Name: Mr. John Valenzuela
Title: Chairperson
Organization: San Fernando Band of Mission Indians
Phone Number:(760) 949-2103
Notes: Mr. Valenzuela called in response to the letter from BonTerra Consulting
noting that the Band has a tribal office in San Fernando [in addition to the address
in Newhall by the NAHC]. He stated that he has "concerns" about the project, but
he did not identify any specific resources or issues, saying just that "there are a lo
of archaeological sites around there" [referring to the general Santa Clarita area].
He said he would have concerns about any project in the Santa Clarita-Canyon
Country area. He did not request any specific actions or measures.

## APPENDIX D

Section 106: Local Historical Consultation









151 Kalmus Drive

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Costa Mesa

California 92626

1/14) 444-9199

[7]4] 444-9599 fax

October 6, 2004

Historical Society of Southern California 200 East Avenue 43 Los Angeles, CA 90031-1304

Subject: Proposed Residential Development, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County

Dear Messrs. of the Society:

Residential development is proposed for an approximately 350-acre property located in the City of Santa Clarita, northern Los Angeles County, California. The new development, referred to as Lyons Canyon Ranch, will be constructed west of Interstate 5 (Golden State Freeway) and south of Pico Canyon Road in the area known as Stevenson Ranch (please see enclosed project location map).

The project is largely undeveloped and has burned in wildfires during recent years. Because of potential impacts to one or more drainages in the property, the project will be subject to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and thus must comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended.

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I would like to be fully informed about historic resources in the vicinity of this project. If there are specific resources in or near this location that should be avoided by the project, please contact me in writing via standard mail or e-mail at rshepard@bonterraconsulting.com. In the absence of contact from you within two weeks of this date, I will assume that you do not wish to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

BONTERRA CONSULTING

Richard S. Shepard, M.A., RPA Cultural Resources Manager

Enclosure

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October 6, 2004

San Fernando Valley Historical Society Post Office Box 7039 10940 Sepulveda Blvd. Mission Hills, CA 91346-7039

Subject: Proposed Residential Development, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County

Dear Messrs. of the Society:

Residential development is proposed for an approximately 350-acre property located in the City of Santa Clarita, northern Los Angeles County, California. The new development, referred to as Lyons Canyon Ranch, will be constructed west of Interstate 5 (Golden State Freeway) and south of Pico Canyon Road in the area known as Stevenson Ranch (please see enclosed project location map).

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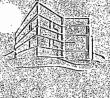
Sincerely,

BONTERRA CONSULTING

Richard S. Shepard, M.A., RPA Cultural Resources Manager

Enclosure

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151 Kalmus Drive

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Costa Mesa

California 92626

(714) 444-9199

(714) 444-9599 fax



October 6, 2004

Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society Post Office Box 221925 Newhall, CA 91322-1925

Subject: Proposed Residential Development, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County

Dear Messrs. of the Society:

Residential development is proposed for an approximately 350-acre property located in the City of Santa Clarita, northern Los Angeles County, California. The new development, referred to as Lyons Canyon Ranch, will be constructed west of Interstate 5 (Golden State Freeway) and south of Pico Canyon Road in the area known as Stevenson Ranch (please see enclosed project location map).

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Sincerely,

BONTERRA CONSULTING

Richard S. Shepard, M.A., RPA Cultural Resources Manager

Enclosure

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Costa Mesa

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October 6, 2004

William S. Hart County Park and Museum 24151 San Fernando Road Newhall, CA 91321-2908

Subject: Proposed Residential Development, Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County

Dear Messrs. of the Museum:

Residential development is proposed for an approximately 350-acre property located in the City of Santa Clarita, northern Los Angeles County, California. The new development, referred to as Lyons Canyon Ranch, will be constructed west of Interstate 5 (Golden State Freeway) and south of Pico Canyon Road in the area known as Stevenson Ranch (please see enclosed project location map).

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Sincerely,

BONTERRA CONSULTING

Richard S. Shepard, M.A., RPA Cultural Resources Manager

Enclosure

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# APPENDIX E

Paleontological Resources Technical Report



Vertebrate Paleontology Section Telephone: (213) 763-3325 FAX: (213) 746-7431 e-mail: smcleod@nhm.org

5 October 2004

BonTerra Consulting 151 Kalmus Drive, Suite E-200 Costa Mesa, CA 92626-7969

Attn: Richard Shepard, Cultural Resources Manager

re: Paleontological Resources for the proposed RBF J171 Lyons Canyon Ranch project area

#### Dear Richard:

I have conducted a thorough search of our Vertebrate Paleontology records for the proposed RBF J171 Lyons Canyon Ranch project area as outlined on the section of the Oat Mountain USGS topographic quadrangle map that you sent to me on 4 October 2004. We have two vertebrate fossil localities that probably lie directly within the proposed project boundaries, and we have other localities nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that occur in the proposed project area.

In the Lyon Canyon drainage in the northwestern and especially in the north-central part of the proposed project area there are surficial deposits of younger Quaternary Alluvium. These deposits typically do not contain significant vertebrate fossils, at least in the uppermost layers, and we do not have any localities nearby from these deposits. In approximately the northeastern two-thirds of the proposed project area there are exposures of the primarily terrestrial Pliocene Saugus Formation with the slightly older marine Pico Formation having exposures in about the southwestern one-third of the proposed project area. Although their exact placement is undetermined, our two fossil vertebrate fossil localities LACM 6145-6146 occur either directly within the southeastern portion of the proposed project area or adjacent to it in the East 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 9. Although initially listed as being from the Saugus Formation, it is more likely that the two localities are from the Pico Formation because they produced a fossil fauna composed of a suite of marine sharks and fishes, including eagle ray, Myliobatis, guitar fish, Rhinobatos, bull shark, Carcharhinus, basking shark, Cetorhinus, and sheepshead, Semicossyphus. Our next closest locality in the Pico Formation is LACM 5456, about four miles. west-southwest of the proposed project area in Brown's Canyon, that produced specimens of the fossil bonito shark, Isurus planus, and fossil white shark, Carcharocles. Somewhat farther away, locality LACM 1931, north of Santa Susana and southwest of the proposed project area, produced a rare specimen of a fossil right whale, Balaenidae. Our closest locality in the

terrestrial facies of the Saugus Formation is LACM 6601, just east of due south of the proposed project area north of California Highway 118 and west of the San Fernando Reservoir, that produced specimens of fossil deer as well as a rare specimen of a fossil tapir, *Tapirus merriami*, figured in the literature by G. T. Jefferson (1989. LACM Contributions in Science, 406:1-21). North of the proposed project area around Saugus we have localities LACM 6803-6804 and LACM 6871 from the terrestrial facies of the Saugus Formation that produced fossil specimens of dog, Canidae, horse, *Equus*, and camel, Camelidae.

Specimens from the marine Pliocene Pico Formation are not well known, but the presence of a rare right whale specimen indicates their importance. Any specimens recovered from the Pico Formation would be very important. The specimens recovered nearby from the terrestrial facies of the Saugus Formation exhibit a nice suite of the Plio-Pleistocene fossil fauna, including a very uncommon specimen of a tapir. Excavations anywhere in the proposed project area, therefore, are likely to encounter significant fossil vertebrate remains. Therefore, any substantial excavations in the proposed project area should be closely monitored to note and professionally collect any vertebrate fossils without impeding the development activities. Also, as indicated above, some of the significant vertebrate fossils from the Pico and Saugus Formations are very small specimens that would typically be missed in monitoring for large construction projects. Therefore it is recommended that sediment samples be collected and processed to determine the potential for small fossils in these deposits. Any fossils collected should be placed in an accredited scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations.

This records search covers only the vertebrate paleontology records of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. It is not intended to be a thorough paleontological survey of the proposed project area covering other institutional records, a literature survey, or any potential on-site survey.

Sincerely,

Samuel A. McLeod, Ph.D. Vertebrate Paleontology

Samuel a. M. Lud

enclosure: invoice