

APPENDIX N

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE

TO • Tom Barnes

FROM • Laurie Solis

DATE • April 26, 2001

SUBJECT • Additional Cultural Resources Records Check for Lancaster Effluent Management Study. Alpine Butte, Hi Vista, Lancaster East, Lancaster West, Rosamond, and Rosamond Lake USGS Topographic Quadrangles

As per your request I have conducted a records check for the above referenced project at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) on April 25, 2001. This search included a review of all recorded historic and prehistoric archaeological sites within designated outlined location, as well as a review of all known relevant cultural resource survey and excavation reports. In addition, I have checked the California State Historic Resources Inventory (2000), the National Register of Historic Places (2000), the listing of California Historical Landmarks (1996), and the California Points of Historical Interest (1992). The following is a discussion of my findings for the project location.

Due to the sensitive nature of cultural resources, archaeological site locations are not released.

PREHISTORIC RESOURCES:

The following prehistoric archaeological sites have been identified within the designated location:
THIRTY-TWO

The artifacts in the prehistoric, Native American sites consist of potsherds, flakes, projectile points, mortars and pestles, manos and metates, choppers, and cores. Characteristic features of prehistoric Native American sites include features such as bedrock mortars, hearths, pitted stone and cupules, petroglyphs, and milling slicks.

HISTORIC RESOURCES

The following historic resources have been identified within designated location: **FORTY**
Many of the historic archaeological sites consist of Historic Period Refuse Deposits (HPRD) and artifacts relating to the early homesteaders of the Antelope Valley.

In addition, the following historic resources were also identified:

- Cedar Ave Complex
National Register
- The Old Jail
National Register
- Antelope Valley Indian Museum

National Register
California Point of Historic Interest

- Western Hotel
California State Historic Landmark No. 658

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The following paleontological resources have been identified within the designated location: **Surface sediments with unknown fossil potential exist within the project area.**

The geologic makeup of the area consists of recent Cenozoic/Quaternary dune sand and alluvium.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The presence of known prehistoric resources within the designated and outlined project area rates an archaeological sensitivity rating of **High**. The presence of historic properties within the designated and outlined project area rates an historical sensitivity rating of **High**. Ground disturbance and excavation is planned for the proposed project. This area is known to be extremely archaeologically sensitive. Based upon the high archaeological and high historic sensitivity ratings, I recommend the following:

- 1) All excavation requires an archaeological monitor.
- 2) Contact a qualified archaeologist or paleontologist to assess the significance of the discovered resources.
- 3) Avoid further activities in the area where resources are located until the qualified archaeologist or paleontologist has identified and removed the items.
- 4) In the event human remains are discovered, contact the county coroner, who will assess whether an archaeologist, the Native American Heritage Commission, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, or appropriate tribal government should be contacted.

These recommendations are based on the presence of recorded sites and the presence of historic properties within the designated location

If you have any questions regarding my results or the recommendation presented herein, please feel free to contact me.

July 12, 2001

Rob Wood
Native American Heritage Commission
915 Capitol Mall, Room 364
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 653-4082
(916) 657-5390 fax

Dear Mr. Wood:

I am writing to request a Sacred Lands File Check and a list of appropriate Native American contacts for consultation for the implementation of the proposed 2020 Facilities Plan for the Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant. The project site may be located on the USGS Rosamond Topographic Quadrangle Map, Township: 8 N, Range: 13 W and R 12 W.

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project area extends west from the boundary of Edwards Air Force Base to 60th Street West. The project boundaries extend northward from West Avenue E to the Los Angeles County/Kern County border in the City of Lancaster.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: County Sanitation District No. 14 of Los Angeles County is preparing the Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant (LWRP) 2020 Facilities Plan to identify the long-term collection, treatment, and effluent management facilities needed to accommodate projected wastewater flow in the District's service area to the year 2020. District 14 is located in northern Los Angeles County and includes portions of the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale and areas of unincorporated Los Angeles County. The Facilities Plan will identify expansions of wastewater treatment facilities required to accommodate expected growth in the service area and effluent management facilities necessary to eliminate and avoid the reoccurrence of effluent-induced overflows from Paiute Ponds onto Rosamond Dry Lake, located on Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB). The effluent management alternatives include the construction of additional evaporation ponds or storage ponds coupled with the acquisition of nearby agricultural lands that could be irrigated with recycled water.

The project site is located in a rural area with primarily public and commercial uses. The State Highway 14 passes near to the project area.

The project site would require acquisition of approximately 4,000 acres near the existing treatment facility. The property would be converted to agriculture or treatment facility uses.

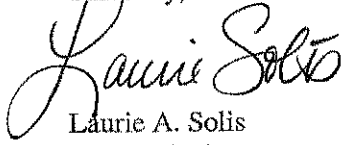
A records check for the project was conducted at the South Central Coastal Information Center on January 17, 2001. This search included a review of all recorded historic and prehistoric archaeological sites within a one-mile radius of the project location, as well as a review of all known relevant cultural resource survey and excavation reports. In addition, the California State Historic Resources Inventory (2000), the National Register of Historic Places (2000), the listing

of California Historic Landmarks (1996), and the California Points of Historical Interest (1992) were checked.

Attached, please find a map showing the project's location. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 323-933-6111.

Thank you. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Laurie A. Solis
Archaeologist
Lsolis@esassoc.com

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 653-4082
Fax (916) 657-6390
Web Site www.nahc.ca.gov



July 23, 2001

Laurie Solis
ESA
4221 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 480
Los Angeles, CA 90010

RE: Cultural assessment of the proposed Lancaster Water Reclamation Plan Lancaster - Los Angeles County

Sent By Fax: (323) 934-1289
Pages Sent: 2

Dear Ms. Solis:

A record search of the sacred lands 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 other with specific knowledge. A minimum of two weeks must be allowed for responses after notification.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from any 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rob Wood".

Rob Wood
Associate Governmental Program Analyst

NATIVE AMERICAN CONTACTS
Los Angeles County
July 20, 2001

Charles Cook
32835 Santiago Road
Acton, CA 93510
(805) 269-1244

Chumash
Gabrielino
Yokut
Kitanemuk

John Valenzuela
PO Box 402597
Hesperia, CA 92340
760 949-2103 Home
805 492-8076 Work

Chumash
Tatavian
Tongva, Gabriellin
Vanyume; Serran
Kitanemuk

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Deron Marquez, Chairperson
PO Box 266
Patton, CA 92369
(909) 864-8933
Fax: (909) 864-3370
Bingo Hall: (909) 864-5050

Serrano

Alfred L. Valenzuela
18678 Pad Court
Newhall, CA 91321
(661) 252-1486 Home
(661) 755-8314 Work

Chumash
Tatavian
Gabrielino
Kitanemuk
Vanyume; Serran

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

Delia Dominguez
981 N. Virginia
Covina, CA 91722
(626) 339-6785

Yowlumne
Kitanemuk

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regards to the cultural assessment for the proposed Lancaster Water Reclamation Plan, Lancaster, Los Angeles County.

F A X C O V E R S H E E T

Original will follow via: Regular Mail Federal Express

Original will not follow

Number of pages including this cover sheet: _____

To • Dr. Sam McLeod

Company • Natural History Museum

FAX Number • 213-746-7431

Phone Number • 213-763-3325

From • Laurie Solis (lsolis@esassoc.com)

ESA Project • Lancaster

Date • 7-29-01

Comments • Attached is a paleontological records check request. Please attend to at your earliest convenience.
Thank you in advance for your assistance.
- Laurie Solis

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This telecopy transmission, including all of its accompanying documents, contains information which is confidential or privileged in nature. The information is intended solely for the use of the individual or entity named on this transmission sheet. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or other use of the contents of this telecopied information is strictly PROHIBITED. If you have received this telecopied communication in error, please notify us immediately so that we may arrange for the retrieval of the telecopied documents from you.

July 29, 2001

Sam McCleod
Natural History Museum
(213) 763-3325
(213) 746-7431 fax

Dear Dr. McCleod:

I am writing to request a Paleontological Records Check of the proposed 2020 Facilities Plan for the Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant. The project site may be located on the USGS Rosamond Topographic Quadrangle Map, Township: 8 N, Range: 13 W and R 12 W.

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project area extends west from the boundary of Edwards Air Force Base to 60th Street West. The project boundaries extend northward from West Avenue E to the Los Angeles County/Kern County border in the City of Lancaster.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: County Sanitation District No. 14 of Los Angeles County is preparing the Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant (LWRP) 2020 Facilities Plan to identify the long-term collection, treatment, and effluent management facilities needed to accommodate projected wastewater flow in the District's service area to the year 2020. District 14 is located in northern Los Angeles County and includes portions of the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale and areas of unincorporated Los Angeles County. The Facilities Plan will identify expansions of wastewater treatment facilities required to accommodate expected growth in the service area and effluent management facilities necessary to eliminate and avoid the reoccurrence of effluent-induced overflows from Paiute Ponds onto Rosamond Dry Lake, located on Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB). The effluent management alternatives include the construction of additional evaporation ponds or storage ponds coupled with the acquisition of nearby agricultural lands that could be irrigated with recycled water.

The project site is located in a rural area with primarily public and commercial uses. The State Highway 14 passes near to the project area.

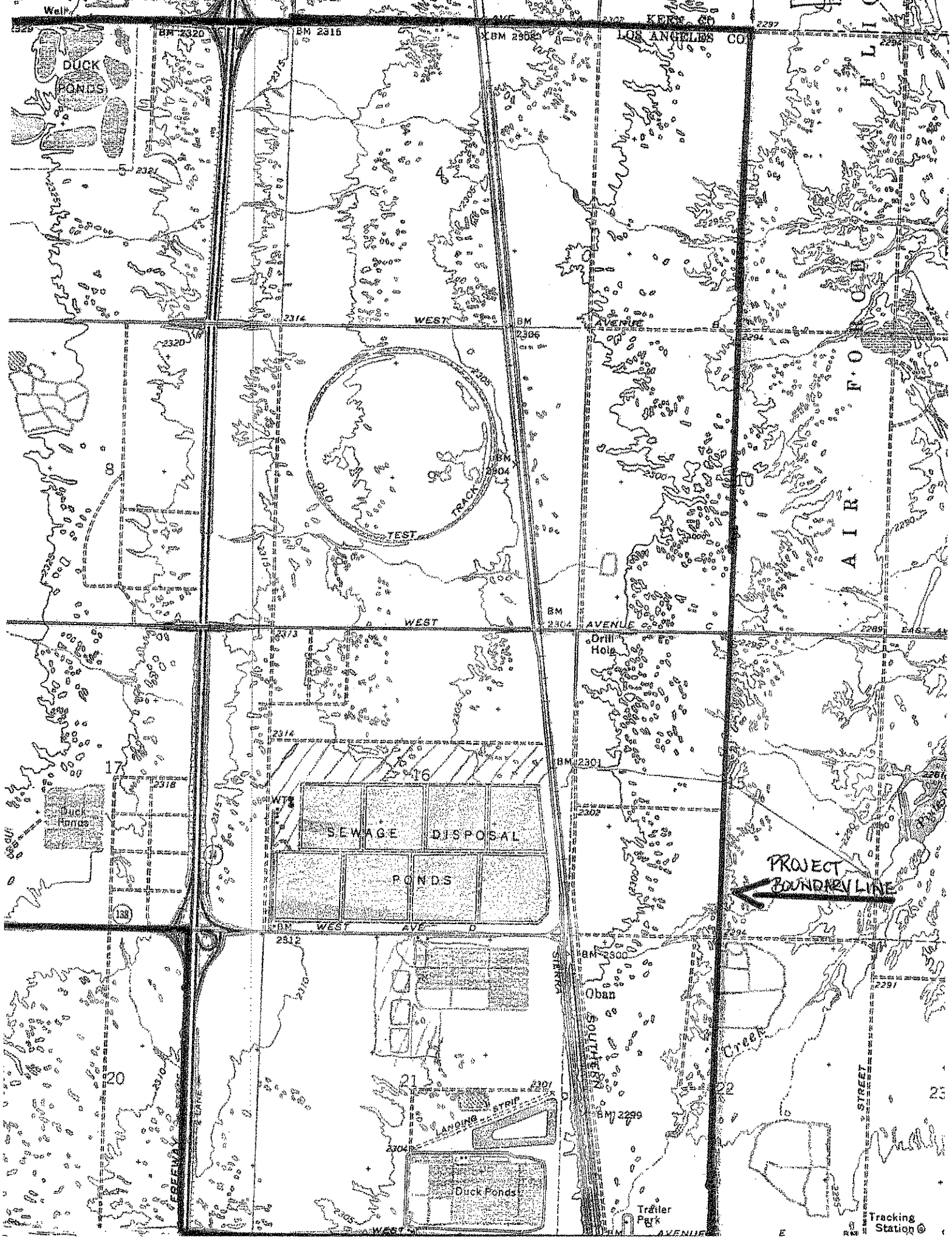
The project site would require acquisition of approximately 4,000 acres near the existing treatment facility. The property would be converted to agriculture or treatment facility uses.

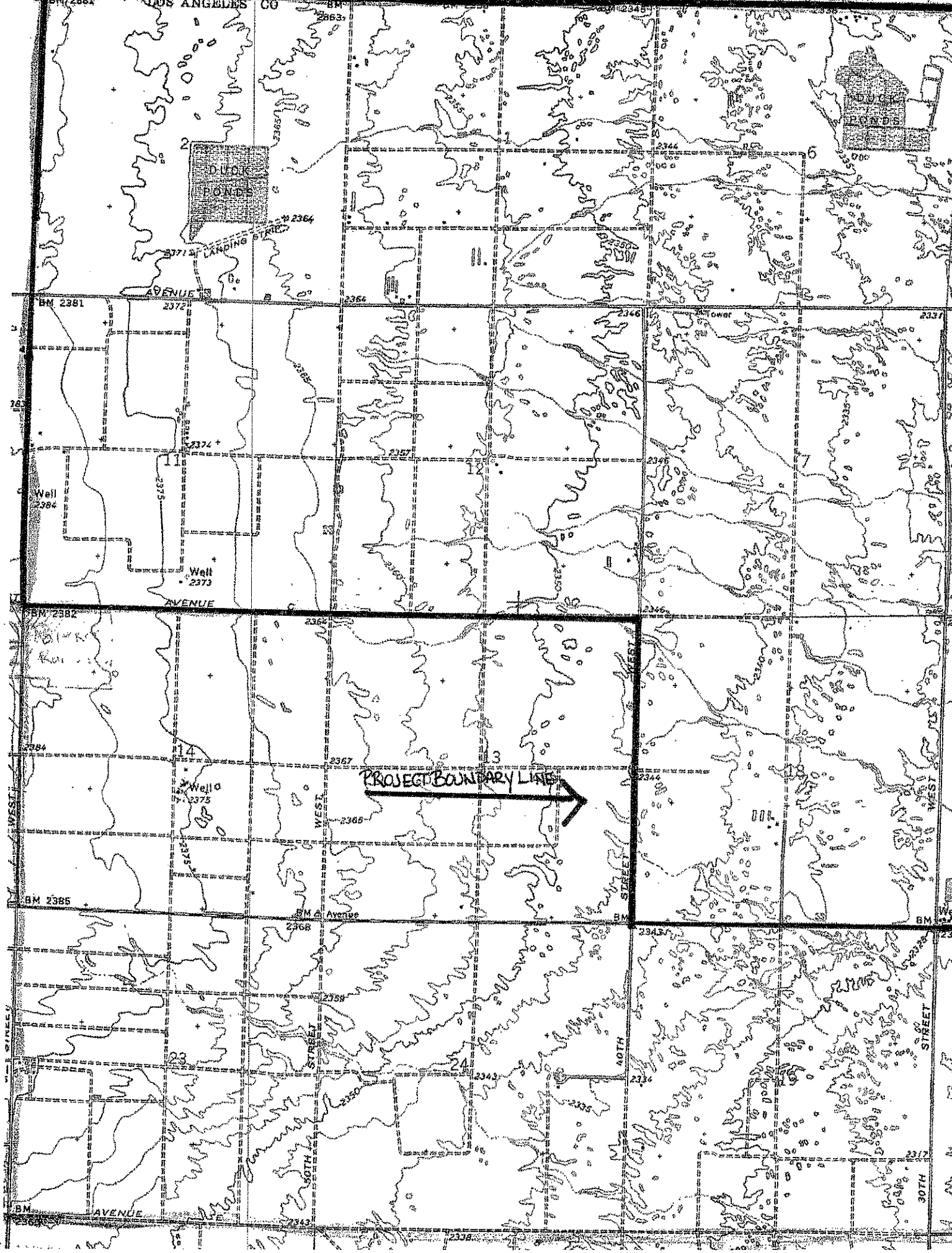
Attached, please find a map showing the project's location. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 323-933-6111.

Thank you. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Laurie A. Solis
Archaeologist
Lsolis@esassoc.com





PROJECT BOUNDARY LINE

DICKSON POND

DICKSON POND

AVENUE

AVENUE

WEST STREET

WEST STREET

10TH STREET

30TH STREET

AVENUE

30TH

BM 2381

BM 2363

BM 2346

BM 2338

BM 2382

BM 2364

BM 2344

BM 2385

BM 2368

BM 2343

BM 2337

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Well 2373

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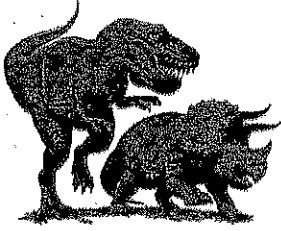
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NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Vertebrate Paleontology Section
Telephone: (213) 763-7637
FAX: (213) 746-7637
e-mail: smcleod@ref.usc.edu

30 July 2001

Environmental Science Associates
4221 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 480
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Attn: Laurie Solis, Archaeologist

re: Paleontological resources for the proposed 2020 Facilities Plan for the Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant project area

Dear Laurie:

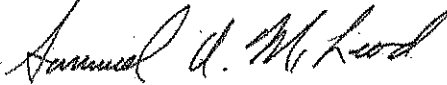
I have thoroughly searched our paleontology collection records for the locality and specimen data for the proposed 2020 Facilities Plan for the Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant project area as outlined on the section of the Rosamond USGS quadrangle map that you faxed to me on 29 July 2001. We do not have any vertebrate fossil localities that lie directly within the proposed project boundaries, but we have localities within a reasonable distance from the proposed project area that occur in the same sediments as probably exist subsurface in the proposed project area.

The entire proposed project area has deposits at the surface of soil and Quaternary Alluvium. These deposits are unlikely to contain significant vertebrate fossils in the uppermost layers. At relatively shallow depth below the Quaternary Alluvium, however, there will be older Quaternary sediments that are quite likely to contain significant vertebrate remains. Our closest fossil vertebrate localities in older Quaternary deposits are south of the proposed project area at the southern end of the Mojave Desert near the San Andreas Fault, where there are surface exposures of the older Quaternary sedimentary units. These localities include LACM (CIT) 399, 451 and 589 as well as LACM 5761 from deposits typically called the Harold Formation in the general area. Larger specimens from these localities include fossil horse, *Equus*, and mastodon, *Mammutidae*. Smaller specimens from these localities include fossil birds, rabbits, *Lepus* and *Sylvilagus*, and rodents, *Peromyscus*, *Reithrodontomys* and *Neotoma*.

Excavations only in the top soil and uppermost few feet of Quaternary Alluvium in the proposed project area are unlikely to encounter significant fossil vertebrate remains. Deeper excavations below the upper few feet that extend into older Quaternary sediments, however, are quite likely to uncover substantial fossil vertebrate remains. Therefore, any substantial excavations below the uppermost few feet should be closely monitored to note and professionally

collect any vertebrate fossils without impeding the construction activities. Also, as indicated above, many significant vertebrate fossils from the older Quaternary deposits in the Mojave Desert region 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 the older Quaternary sediments in the proposed project area. Any fossils collected should be placed in an accredited scientific institution for the benefit of current and future generations.

Sincerely,



Samuel A. McLeod, Ph.D.
Vertebrate Paleontology

enclosure: invoice

TO • Tom Barnes

FROM • Laurie Solis

DATE • March 28, 2002

SUBJECT • Cultural Resource Records Check for Lancaster WRP Effluent Management Study, Lancaster, Los Angeles County, California, Rosamond Quadrangle 1973, and Rosamond Lake Quadrangle 1973.

As per your request I have conducted a records check for the above referenced project at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) on March 18, 2002 and March 27, 2002. The project is located West Avenue E and West Avenue C and extends from the EAFB western boundary to 50th Street East (See Attached Map). This search included a review of all recorded historic and prehistoric archaeological sites within a one-quarter mile radius of the project location, as well as a review of all known relevant cultural resource survey and excavation reports. In addition, we have checked the California State Historic Resources Inventory (2001), the National Register of Historic Places (2000), the listing of California Historical Landmarks (1996), and the California Points of Historical Interest (1992). The following is a discussion of my findings for the project location.

Due to the sensitive nature of cultural resources, archaeological site locations are not released.

PREHISTORIC RESOURCES:

The following prehistoric archaeological sites have been identified within a one-quarter mile radius of the project location: **Seventy-Eight**

Seventy-six were located within the project boundary:

- CA-LAN-1720
- CA-LAN-2357
- CA-LAN-1844H
- CA-LAN-2180H
- CA-LAN-2300
- CA-LAN-714
- CA-LAN-2298
- CA-LAN-187
- CA-LAN-2301
- CA-LAN-2302
- CA-LAN-2447H
- CA-LAN-2295
- CA-LAN-2297H
- CA-LAN-2282H
- CA-LAN-2286
- CA-LAN-2355
- CA-LAN-2304H
- CA-LAN-2299H
- CA-LAN-2296H
- CA-LAN-2285
- CA-LAN-2290H
- CA-LAN-2288
- CA-LAN-2354H
- CA-LAN-2292
- CA-LAN-2281
- CA-LAN-2284
- CA-LAN-2291
- CA-LAN-2293H
- CA-LAN-2287
- CA-LAN-2280H
- CA-LAN-1469H
- CA-LAN-2353
- CA-LAN-2270H
- CA-LAN-2273
- CA-LAN-1501H
- CA-LAN-2271
- CA-LAN-1555
- CA-LAN-1551H
- CA-LAN-1550H
- CA-LAN-2272H
- CA-LAN-2274H
- CA-LAN-2276

- CA-LAN-2279
- CA-LAN-2283H
- CA-LAN-2278H
- CA-LAN-2352H
- CA-LAN-2277
- CA-LAN-2275
- CA-LAN-1558H
- CA-LAN-1233H
- CA-LAN-1232H
- CA-LAN-1864H
- CA-LAN-1863H
- CA-LAN-1230
-
- CA-LAN-1549H
- CA-LAN-1490H
- CA-LAN-2428
- CA-LAN-2380
- CA-LAN-2420
- CA-LAN-2421
- CA-LAN-2422
- CA-LAN-2423
- CA-LAN-2424H
- CA-LAN-2427
- CA-LAN-2426H
- CA-LAN-2425H
- CA-LAN-1928H
- CA-LAN-1548H
- CA-LAN-2429
- CA-LAN-100107
- CA-LAN-1489H
- CA-LAN-1487H
- CA-LAN-1486H
- CA-LAN-1488H
- CA-LAN-1491H
- CA-LAN1563H

These sites have been identified by Edwards Air Force Base personnel, Computer Sciences Corporation, TetraTech and R. W. Robinson. These sites still exist in their original location. These sites are comprised of prehistoric and historic archaeological sites and deposits.

Three were located one-quarter mile outside of the project boundary:

- CA-LAN-788
- CA-LAN-1316
- CA-LAN-1470

Three archaeological sites were identified within one-quarter mile outside of the project boundary. These are not located within the project boundary, and not expected to be impacted by the proposed project.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The presence of prehistoric resources within a one-quarter mile radius of the project location rates an archaeological sensitivity rating of **High**. The absence of historic properties within a one-quarter mile radius of the project location rates an historical sensitivity rating of **High**. Ground disturbance and excavation is planned for the proposed project. Based upon the high archaeological and low historic sensitivity ratings, I recommend the following:

1. Confine construction activities to areas rating that do not rate a High cultural sensitivity rating.
2. A Phase I Cultural Resource Survey is required of the areas not previously assessed for cultural resources.
3. A Phase II and Phase III collection program shall be designed and implemented six months prior to commencement of the proposed project.
4. If alteration or construction is proposed to structures more than fifty years old, the structure should be historically assessed prior to approval of project plans.
5. An archaeological monitor shall be on site during all excavation activities related to the project. In the event cultural or paleontological materials are discovered in any area during construction and excavation activities, all work in that area shall cease until the qualified archaeologist and/or paleontologist shall examine and collect the resources.

6. In the event human remains are encountered, all work in the area shall cease until the Kern County/Los Angeles County Coroner shall be contacted, who shall determine whether the remains are Native American in origin. If the remains are found to be of Native American origin, the Native American Heritage Commission and most likely descendent shall be contacted until recommendations for recovery are made.
7. All finds shall be collected in accordance with guidelines set forth by SHPO and Section 106 for the collection of archaeological resources.
8. All finds shall be deposited and collected in conjunction and cooperation with Edwards Air Force Base's Base Historic Preservation Officer.

These recommendations are based on the recorded sites and the lack of historic properties within a quarter mile radius of the project area and within the project area.

If you have any questions regarding my results or the recommendation presented herein, please feel free to contact me.