# CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

## Eco Dome Campground Project

## Landers, San Bernardino County, California

Prepared for:

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Prepared by:

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Project No. EMT2202

Data Base Information: *Type of Study:* Reconnaissance Survey *Resources Recorded:* None *USGS Quadrangle:* 7.5-minute Landers, California (1972)



June 4, 2022

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to ELMT Consulting to complete a Cultural Resources Assessment of the Eco Dome Campground Project (approximately 2.5 acres; the project) located in the unincorporated community of Landers, San Bernardino County (County), California. A cultural resources records search, intensive-level pedestrian field survey, Sacred Lands File search with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and paleontological overview were conducted for the project in partial fulfillment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The cultural resources records search revealed that three cultural resources studies have taken place resulting in the recording of three cultural resources within one half-mile of the project site. The project site has never been assessed for cultural resources, and no cultural resources have been previously identified within its boundaries. During the field survey, BCR Consulting archaeologists identified no cultural resources (including historic-period archaeological, prehistoric archaeological, or historic-period architectural resources) within the project site. Based on these results, a finding of no impacts to historical resources is recommended and no additional cultural resources work or monitoring is recommended for development of the project site.

Findings were negative during the Sacred Lands File search with the NAHC. The results of the Sacred Lands File search are provided in Appendix B. Since the County will initiate and carry out the required AB52 Native American Consultation, the results of the consultation are not provided in this report. However, this report may be used during the consultation process, and BCR Consulting staff is available to answer questions and address concerns as necessary.

According to CEQA Guidelines, projects subject to CEQA must determine whether the project would "directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource". The appended Paleontological Overview provided in Appendix C has recommended that:

The geologic units underlying this project are mapped as Holocene alluvial units, with surrounding units of Pleistocene alluvial (Dibblee 1967). Holocene alluvial units are considered to be of high preservation value, but material found is unlikely to be fossil material due to the relatively modern associated dates of the deposits. However, if development requires any substantial depth of disturbance, or extends beyond the boundary of the project area into the nearby Pleistocene units, the likelihood of reaching Pleistocene alluvial sediments would increase. The Western Science Center does not have localities within the project area or within a 1 mile radius.

While the presence of any fossil material is unlikely, if excavation activity disturbs deeper sediment dating to the earliest parts of the Holocene or Late Pleistocene periods, the material would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with the development of the project area is unlikely to be paleontologically sensitive, but caution during development should be observed.

If human remains are encountered during any proposed project activities, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

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## INTRODUCTION

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to ELMT Consulting to complete a Cultural Resources Assessment of the proposed Eco Dome Campground Project (approximately 2.5 acres; the project) in the unincorporated community of Landers, San Bernardino County (County), California. A cultural resources records search, intensive-level pedestrian field survey, Sacred Lands File search with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), and vertebrate paleontological resources assessment were conducted for the project in partial fulfillment of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project is located in Section 6, Township 2 North, Range 6 East, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian. It is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Landers, California (1972) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 1).

#### **Regulatory Setting**

**The California Environmental Quality Act.** CEQA applies to all discretionary projects undertaken or subject to approval by the state's public agencies (California Code of Regulations 14(3), § 15002(i)). Under CEQA, "A project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment" (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(b)). State CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5(a) defines a "historical resource" as a resource that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Listed in, or eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register)
- Listed in a local register of historical resources (as defined at Cal. Public Res. Code § 5020.1(k))
- Identified as significant in a historical resource survey meeting the requirements of § 5024.1(g) of the Cal. Public Res. Code
- Determined to be a historical resource by a project's lead agency (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(a))

A historical resource consists of "Any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which a lead agency determines to be historically significant or significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California...Generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be 'historically significant' if the resource meets the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources" (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), § 15064.5(a)(3)). The significance of a historical resource is impaired when a project demolishes or materially alters in an adverse manner those physical characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical or archaeological resource is significant, CEQA requires feasible measures to minimize the impact (State CEQA Guidelines § 15126.4 (a)(1)). Mitigation of significant impacts must lessen or eliminate the physical impact that the project will have on the resource.

Section 5024.1 of the Cal. Public Res. Code established the California Register. Generally, a resource is considered by the lead agency to be "historically significant" if the resource meets the criteria for listing in the California Register (Cal. Code Regs. tit. 14(3), § 15064.5



(a)(3)). The eligibility criteria for the California Register are similar to those of the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), and a resource that meets one of more of the eligibility criteria of the National Register will be eligible for the California Register.

The California Register program encourages public recognition and protection of resources of architectural, historical, archaeological, and cultural significance, identifies historical resources for state and local planning purposes, determines eligibility for state historic preservation grant funding and affords certain protections under CEQA. Criteria for Designation:

- 1. Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.
- 2. Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.
- 3. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.
- 4. Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

In addition to meeting one or more of the above criteria, the California Register requires that sufficient time has passed since a resource's period of significance to "obtain a scholarly perspective on the events or individuals associated with the resources." (CCR 4852 [d][2]). Fifty years is normally considered sufficient time for a potential historical resource, and in order that the evaluation remain valid for a minimum of five years after the date of this report, all resources older than 45 years (i.e. resources from the "historic-period") will be evaluated for California Register listing eligibility, or CEQA significance. The California Register also requires that a resource possess integrity. This is defined as the ability for the resource to convey its significance through seven aspects: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Tribal Cultural Resources. The Legislature added requirements regarding tribal cultural resources for CEQA in Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) that took effect July 1, 2015. AB 52 requires consultation with California Native American tribes and consideration of tribal cultural resources in the CEQA process. By including tribal cultural resources early in the CEQA process, the legislature intended to ensure that local and Tribal governments, public agencies, and project proponents would have information available, early in the project planning process, to identify and address potential adverse impacts to tribal cultural resources. By taking this proactive approach, the legislature also intended to reduce the potential for delay and conflicts in the environmental review process. To help determine whether a project may have such an effect, the Public Resources Code requires a lead agency to consult with any California Native American tribe that requests consultation and is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of a Proposed Project. Since the County will initiate and carry out the required AB52 Native American Consultation, the results of the consultation are not provided in this report. However, this report may be used during the consultation process, and BCR Consulting staff are available to answer questions and address comments as necessary.

**Paleontological Resources.** CEQA provides guidance relative to significant impacts on paleontological resources, indicating that a project would have a significant impact on paleontological resources if it disturbs or destroys a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature. Section 5097.5 of the California Public Resources Code specifies that any unauthorized removal of paleontological remains is a misdemeanor. Further, California Penal Code Section 622.5 sets the penalties for damage or removal of paleontological resources. CEQA documentation prepared for projects would be required to analyze paleontological resources as a condition of the CEQA process to disclose potential impacts. Please note that as of January 2018 paleontological resources are considered in the geological rather than cultural category. Therefore, paleontological resources are not summarized in the body of this report. A paleontological overview completed by professional paleontologists from the Western Science Center is provided as Appendix C.

## NATURAL SETTING

#### Geology

The project is located in the southern portion of the Mojave Desert. Sediments within the project boundaries include a geologic unit composed of sedimentary and volcanic rocks and alluvium formed during the late Pleistocene and Holocene Epochs of the Quaternary Period (Dibblee 1967). Field observations during the current study are basically consistent with these descriptions, and are described further in the Field Survey Results section, below.

## Hydrology

The project elevation is approximately 2,940 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). Sheetwashing and some rilling occur across the project site from south to north, and local water empties into Pipes Wash, which is adjacent to the northwest side of the project site. This drains near Emerson Lake. To the south, the peaks of the San Bernardino Mountains rise above 10,000 feet and are often capped with snow until late spring or early summer. The area currently exhibits a relatively arid climate, with dry, hot summers and cool winters. Rainfall ranges from five to 15 inches annually (Jaeger and Smith 1971:36-37). Precipitation usually occurs in the form of winter and spring rain or snow at high elevations, with occasional warm monsoonal showers in late summer.

## Biology

The mild climate of the late Pleistocene allowed piñon-juniper woodland to thrive throughout most of the Mojave (Van Devender et al. 1987). The vegetation and climate during this epoch attracted significant numbers of Rancholabrean fauna, including dire wolf, saber toothed cat, short-faced bear, horse, camel, antelope, mammoth, as well as birds which included pelican, goose, duck, cormorant, and eagle (Reynolds 1988). The drier climate of the middle Holocene resulted in the local development of complementary flora and fauna, which remain largely intact to this day. Common native plants include creosote, cacti, rabbit bush, interior golden bush, cheese bush, species of sage, buckwheat at higher elevations and near drainages, Joshua tree, and various grasses. Common native animals include coyotes, cottontail and jackrabbits, rats, mice, desert tortoises, roadrunners, raptors, turkey vultures, and other bird species (see Williams et al. 2008).

## CULTURAL SETTING

#### Prehistoric Context

The prehistoric cultural setting of the Mojave Desert has been organized into many chronological frameworks (see Warren and Crabtree 1986; Bettinger and Taylor 1974; Lanning 1963; Hunt 1960; Wallace 1958, 1962, 1977; Wallace and Taylor 1978; Campbell and Campbell 1935), although there is no definitive sequence for the region. The difficulties in establishing cultural chronologies for the Mojave are a function of its enormous size and the small amount of archaeological excavations conducted there. Moreover, throughout prehistory many groups have occupied the Mojave and their territories often overlap spatially and chronologically resulting in mixed artifact deposits. Due to dry climate and capricious geological processes, these artifacts rarely become integrated in-situ. Lacking a milieu hospitable to the preservation of cultural midden, Mojave chronologies have relied upon temporally diagnostic artifacts, such as projectile points, or upon the presence/absence of other temporal indicators, such as groundstone. Such methods are instructive, but can be limited by prehistoric occupants' concurrent use of different artifact styles, or by artifact re-use or re-sharpening, as well as researchers' mistaken diagnosis, and other factors (see Flenniken 1985; Flenniken and Raymond 1986; Flenniken and Wilke 1989). Recognizing the shortcomings of comparative temporal indicators, this study recommends the findings of Warren and Crabree (1986), who have drawn upon this method to produce a commonly cited and relatively comprehensive chronology.

## Ethnography

**Serrano.** The Uto-Aztecan "Serrano" people occupied the western Mojave Desert periphery. Kroeber (1925) applied the generic term "Serrano" to four groups, each with distinct territories: the Kitanemuk, Tataviam, Vanyume, and Serrano. Only one group, in the San Bernardino Mountains and West-Central Mojave Desert, ethnically claims the term Serrano. "The Serrano resided in an area that extended east of the Cajon Pass, located in the San Bernardino Mountains, to Twenty-nine Palms, the north foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains and south to include portions of the Yucaipa Valley" (Bean and Smith 1978:570). Both the Serrano and Cahuilla utilized the western Mojave region seasonally. Evidence for longer term/permanent Serrano settlement in the western Mojave most notably includes the Serrano-named village of Guapiabit in Summit Valley (de Barros 2004). Access to water determined where the Serrano built their settlements/villages (Bean and Smith 1978). Most of the villages were located within the Sonoran life zone (Scrub Oak [Quercus sp.] and sagebrush [Salvia sp.]), or forest transition zone, (Ponderosa pine [Pinus ponderosa]) (Bean and Smith 1978; Kroeber 1925). Like many neighboring tribes, the Serrano and Cahuilla were Takic (Uto-Aztecan language family) speakers (Lightfoot and Parrish 2009:341). Serrano traded with their neighbors and actively participated in a shell bead exchange economy with the Cahuilla, Luiseno, and Gabrielino (McCawley 1996).

Occasionally, villages were located in the desert, adjacent to permanent water sources. Structures for families were usually circular domes, constructed of willow frames and tule thatching. Individual family homes were used primarily for sleeping and storage. Families conducted many of their daily routines outside of their house or under a ramada. A ramada consisted of a thatched roof supported by vertical poles in the ground, which provided a shaded work area (Lightfoot and Parrish 2009:344). Other village structures included a

ceremonial house, granaries and sweathouses. Subsistence strategies focused on hunting and gathering, occasionally supplemented by fishing. Food preparation varied and included a variety of cooking techniques. These ranged from baking in earth ovens to parching. Food processing utilities included scrapers, bowls, baskets, mortars, and metates (Bean and Smith 1978). A lineage leader, or kika, administered laws and ceremonies from a large ceremonial house centrally located in most villages. The size of lineages is a matter of some dispute, but most probably numbered between 70 and 120 individuals (Lightfoot and Parrish 2009). Serrano people were organized into clans affiliated with one of two exogamous moieties. Clans were led by a hereditary chief who occupied the village "big house" where ceremonies took place and shamans were initiated (Bean and Smith 1978; Strong 1929).

## History

Historic-era California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish or Mission Period (1769 to 1821), the Mexican or Rancho Period (1821 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present).

**Spanish Period.** The first European to pass through the project area is thought to be a Spaniard called Father Francisco Garces. Having become familiar with the area, Garces acted as a guide to Juan Bautista de Anza, who had been commissioned to lead a group across the desert from a Spanish outpost in Arizona to set up quarters at the Mission San Gabriel in 1771 near what today is Pasadena (Beck and Haase 1974). This is the first recorded group crossing of the Mojave Desert and, according to Father Garces' journal, they camped at the headwaters of the Mojave River, one night less than a day's march from the mountains. Today, this is estimated to have been approximately 11 miles southeast of Victorville (Marenczuk 1962). Garces was followed by Alta California Governor Pedro Fages, who briefly explored the western Mojave region in 1772. Searching for San Diego Presidio deserters, Fages had traveled north through Riverside to San Bernardino, crossed over the mountains into the Mojave Desert, and then journeyed westward to the San Joaquin Valley (Beck and Haase 1974).

**Mexican Period.** In 1821, Mexico overthrew Spanish rule and the missions began to decline. By 1833, the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act, and the missions, reorganized as parish churches, lost their vast land holdings, and released their neophytes (Beattie and Beattie 1974).

**American Period.** The American Period, 1848–Present, began with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. In 1850, California was accepted into the Union of the United States primarily due to the population increase created by the Gold Rush of 1849. The cattle industry reached its greatest prosperity during the first years of the American Period. Mexican Period land grants had created large pastoral estates in California, and demand for beef during the Gold Rush led to a cattle boom that lasted from 1849–1855. However, beginning about 1855, the demand for beef began to decline due to imports of sheep from New Mexico and cattle from the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys. When the beef market collapsed, many California ranchers lost their ranchos through foreclosure. A series of disastrous floods in 1861–1862, followed by a significant drought diminished the economic impact of local ranching. This decline combined with ubiquitous agricultural and real estate

developments of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, set the stage for diversified economic pursuits that have continued to proliferate to this day (Beattie and Beattie 1974; Cleland 1941).

## PERSONNEL

David Brunzell, M.A., RPA acted as the Project Manager and Principal Investigator for the current study. He also complied the technical report with contributions by BCR Consulting Archaeological Crew Chief Nicholas Shepetuk, B.A. Mr. Brunzell conducted the cultural resources records search using South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) records at California State University, Fullerton. Mr. Shepetuk and BCR Consulting Archaeological Field Technician Fabian Martinez completed the field assessment.

## METHODS

## Research

Prior to fieldwork, a records search was conducted at the SCCIC. This archival research reviewed the status of all recorded historic and prehistoric cultural resources, and survey and excavation reports completed within one half-mile of the project site. Additional resources reviewed included the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register), and documents and inventories published by the California Office of Historic Preservation. These include the lists of California Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, Listing of National Register Properties, and the Inventory of Historic Structures listed in the Built Environment Resources Directory (BERD).

#### Field Survey

An archaeological field survey of the project site was conducted on April 14, 2022. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects spaced approximately 15 meters apart across 100 percent of the accessible project site. All soil exposures were carefully inspected for evidence of cultural resources.

## RESULTS

#### Research

Research completed through the SCCIC revealed that three cultural resource studies have taken place resulting in the recording of three cultural resources within one half-mile of the project site. The project site has never been assessed for cultural resources, and no cultural resources have been previously identified within its boundaries. A summary of the records search results is included below.

USGS 7.5 Min	Cultural Resources Within One-Half-Mile of	Reports Within One Half-
Quadrangle	Project Site	Mile of Project Site
Landers, California (1972)	P-36-60244: Prehistoric Lithic Core (0.25-miles W) P-36-60245: Prehistoric Lithic Core (0.5-miles S) P-36-60246: Prehistoric Lithic Flake (100 feet E)	SB-743, 1348, 1442

#### Table A. Cultural Resources and Studies within One Half-Mile of the Project Site

#### Field Survey

The project site exhibited approximately 90 percent surface visibility. The project site has been subject to some off-road vehicle activity, but is mostly undisturbed. The project exhibits a gentle slope with a northerly aspect. Vegetation is characteristic of creosote scrubland and Joshua tree woodland. Sediment is dry, yellowish-brown, silty sand with minimal gravel content. No cultural resources were identified during the field survey.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on these results, a finding of no impacts to historical resources is recommended and no additional cultural resources work or monitoring is recommended for development of the project site. While the current study has not indicated sensitivity for unknown cultural resources within the project boundaries, ground disturbing activities always have the potential to reveal buried deposits not observed on the surface during previous surveys. Prior to the initiation of ground-disturbing activities, field personnel should be alerted to the possibility of buried prehistoric or historic cultural deposits. In the event that field personnel encounter buried cultural materials, work in the immediate vicinity of the find should cease and a qualified archaeologist should be retained to assess the significance of the find. The qualified archaeologist shall have the authority to stop or divert construction excavation as necessary. If the qualified archaeologist finds that any cultural resources present meet eligibility requirements for listing on the California Register or the National Register, plans for the treatment, evaluation, and mitigation of impacts to the find will need to be developed. Prehistoric or historic cultural materials that may be encountered during ground-disturbing activities include:

- historic artifacts such as glass bottles and fragments, cans, nails, ceramic and pottery fragments, and other metal objects;
- historic structural or building foundations, walkways, cisterns, pipes, privies, and other structural elements;
- prehistoric flaked-stone artifacts and debitage (waste material), consisting of obsidian, basalt, and or cryptocrystalline silicates;
- groundstone artifacts, including mortars, pestles, and grinding slabs;
- dark, greasy soil that may be associated with charcoal, ash, bone, shell, flaked stone, groundstone, and fire affected rocks.

Findings were negative during the Sacred Lands File search with the NAHC. The results of the Sacred Lands File search are provided in Appendix B. Since the County will initiate and carry out the required AB52 Native American Consultation, the results of the consultation are not provided in this report. However, this report may be used during the consultation process, and BCR Consulting staff is available to answer questions and address concerns as necessary.

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# **APPENDIX A**

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1: Project Site Overview (View S)



Photo 2: Project Site Overview (View E)

## **APPENDIX B**

# NAHC SACRED LANDS FILE SEARCH



CHAIRPERSON Laura Miranda Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON Reginald Pagaling Chumash

Parliamentarian **Russell Attebery** Karuk

SECRETARY Sara Dutschke Miwok

COMMISSIONER William Mungary Paiute/White Mountain Apache

COMMISSIONER Isaac Bojorquez Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER Buffy McQuillen Yokayo Pomo, Yuki, Nomlaki

Commissioner Wayne Nelson Luiseño

COMMISSIONER Stanley Rodriguez Kumeyaay

Executive Secretary Raymond C. Hitchcock Miwok/Nisenan

#### NAHC HEADQUARTERS

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

# NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

May 16, 2022

David Brunzell BCR Consulting, LLC

Via Email to: <u>bcrllc2008@gmail.com</u>

#### Re: Eco Dome Campground Project, San Bernardino County

Dear Mr. Brunzell:

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results were <u>negative</u>. However, the absence of specific site information in the SLF does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. I suggest you contact all of those indicated; if they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify me. With your assistance, we can assure that our lists contain current information.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: <u>Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Indrew Green

Andrew Green Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

#### Native American Heritage Commission Native American Contact List San Bernardino County 5/16/2022

#### Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Robert Martin, Chairperson 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 755 - 5110 Fax: (951) 755-5177 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

Cahuilla Serrano

#### Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Ann Brierty, THPO 12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220 Phone: (951) 755 - 5259 Fax: (951) 572-6004 abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov

## Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

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#### Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation

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## Serrano Nation of Mission

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#### Serrano Nation of Mission Indians

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Serrano

#### Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

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Chemehuevi

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

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This list is current only as of the date of this document. Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resource Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed Eco Dome Campground Project, San Bernardino County.

# APPENDIX C

## PALEONTOLOGICAL OVERVIEW



April 21, 2022

BCR Consulting, LLC Joseph Orozco 505 W. 8<sup>th</sup> St. Claremont, CA 91711

Dear Mr. Orozco,

This letter presents the results of a record search conducted for Eco Dome Campground Project located in Unincorporated Landers, San Bernardino County, California. The project site is located immediately south of Linn Road, north of Rocky Acres Road, east of Belfield Blvd, and west of Sand Drive, in the Township 2 North, Range 6 East, Section 6 on the *Landers (1972), CA* USGS 7.5 minute quadrangle.

The geologic units underlying this project are mapped as Holocene alluvial units, with surrounding units of Pleistocene alluvial (Diblee 1967). Holocene alluvial units are considered to be of high preservation value, but material found is unlikely to be fossil material due to the relatively modern associated dates of the deposits. However, if development requires any substantial depth of disturbance, or extends beyond the boundary of the project area into the nearby Pleistocene units, the likelihood of reaching Pleistocene alluvial sediments would increase. The Western Science Center does not have localities within the project area or within a 1 mile radius.

While the presence of any fossil material is unlikely, if excavation activity disturbs deeper sediment dating to the earliest parts of the Holocene or Late Pleistocene periods, the material would be scientifically significant. Excavation activity associated with the development of the project area is unlikely to be paleontologically sensitive, but caution during development should be observed.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please feel free to contact me at <u>bstoneburg@westerncentermuseum.org</u>.

Sincerely,

Brittney Elizabeth Stoneburg Collections Technician

# Eco Dome Campground Project

project area + 1 mile radius



Katels Lazy Desert



Linn Rd Ltan Ro

Linn Rd

1-70



BING

Belite

The Integration



10

Survey Google Earth

gb: Mesozoic gabbroic rocks, unit 2 (undivided) (Triassic to Cretaceous) Q: Quaternary alluvium and marine deposits (Pliocene to Holocene)

