

# Phase I Cultural Resources Survey Bernardo Shores Project, San Diego County, California

U.S.G.S. *Imperial Beach, CA* quadrangle

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# Bernardo Shores Project Phase I Cultural Resources Survey

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Rincon Consultants (Rincon) was retained by Integral Communities to conduct a Phase I cultural resources survey of the proposed Bernardo Shores Project, Imperial Beach, San Diego County, California (project). The project area is 10.07 acres located at 500 Highway 75, Imperial Beach, California (Figure 1 in Appendix A).

This technical report has been prepared in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) statutes and guidelines. This cultural resources study has been conducted in support of the environmental review and included a records search, Native American scoping, intensive pedestrian survey, and report of results.

The results of the records search, Native American scoping, and field survey indicate that no known cultural resources will be impacted by the project. One resource, P-37-026582, is located adjacent to the project area. However, this resource does not extend into the project area and will not be impacted, directly or indirectly, by the proposed project. Rincon Consultants recommends no further cultural resources work be conducted for the project. The following measures are recommended in case of unanticipated discoveries.

## **UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES**

If cultural resources are encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work in the immediate area must halt and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's *Professional Qualifications Standards* for archaeology (National Park Service 1983) should be contacted immediately to evaluate the find. If the discovery proves to be significant under CEQA, additional work such as data recovery excavation may be warranted.

## **UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY OF HUMAN REMAINS**

The discovery of human remains is always a possibility during ground disturbing activities; if human remains are found, State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the county coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of human remains, the County Coroner must be notified immediately. If the human 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). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of notification and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials.



## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Rincon Consultants (Rincon) was retained by Integral Communities to conduct a cultural resources survey of a proposed 10.07-acre project area. The project area, located at 500 California State Route 75, Imperial Beach, California, is currently in use as a paved recreational vehicle park. This report has been prepared in accordance with the statutes and guidelines of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

### 1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Bernardo Shores project in Imperial Beach, California proposes to construct a residential development within an approximately 10.07-acre project area. The area is currently developed as a paved recreational vehicle camping area.

### 1.2 REGULATORY SETTING

The project is subject to CEQA, which requires a lead agency to determine whether a project may have a significant effect on historical resources (Section 21084.1). If it can be demonstrated that a project will cause damage to a unique archaeological resource, the lead agency may require reasonable efforts be made to permit any or all of these resources to be preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. To the extent that resources cannot be left undisturbed, mitigation measures are required (Section 21083.2[a], [b], and [c]).

Section 21083.2(g) defines a *unique archaeological resource* as an archaeological artifact, object, or site about which it can be clearly demonstrated that without merely adding to the current body of knowledge, there is a high probability that it meets any of the following criteria:

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

A *historical resource* is a resource listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing, in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR; Section 21084.1), a resource included in a local register of historical resources (Section 15064.5[a][2]), or any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that a lead agency determines to be historically significant (Section 15064.5[a][3]).

### 1.3 PERSONNEL

Rincon Cultural Resources Program Manager Kevin Hunt, B.A., managed the cultural resources study, requested the records search from the South Coastal Information Center (SCIC), and conducted the Native American scoping. Rincon archaeologist Hannah Haas, B.A., conducted



the pedestrian survey and served as the primary author of this report. Cultural Resources Principal Investigator Robert Ramirez, M.A., Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA), coauthored this report and served as principal investigator. GIS Analyst Katherine Warner, B.A. and B.S., prepared the figure found in Appendix A. Rincon Vice-President Duane Vander Pluym, D. Env., reviewed this report for quality control.

## 2.0 NATURAL SETTING

The Bernardo Shores Project is located in southern San Diego County, approximately 0.75 miles east of the Pacific Ocean and one mile south of the southern tip of the San Diego Bay. The project area is located on a disturbed and paved recreational vehicle camping park. It is bordered by the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge. Vegetation communities include mixed chaparral, southern coast live oak riparian forest, and coastal wetland vegetation.

## 3.0 CULTURAL SETTING

The cultural setting for the project vicinity is broadly presented within three overviews: Prehistoric, Ethnographic, and Historic. The Prehistoric and Historic overviews describe human occupation before and after European contact, while the Ethnographic Overview provides a synchronic “snapshot” of traditional Native American lifeways as described by European observers prior to assimilative actions or as described to later ethnographers.

### 3.1 PREHISTORIC OVERVIEW

The project lies in what generally is described as California’s Southern Bight. This region extends from Mexican border to Point Conception and includes Orange and San Diego Counties, western Riverside County, and the Southern Channel Islands. At European contact, the region was occupied by the Tongva, Juaneño, Luiseño, and Kumeyaay (Ipai and Tipai). For the purposes of this study, the prehistoric cultural chronology for the Southern Bight is presented following Byrd and Raab (2007), who have divided it into the Early (9600- 5600 B.C.), Middle (5600-1650 B.C.), and Late (5600-1650 B.C.) Holocene.

#### 3.1.1 The Early Holocene (ca. 9600-5600 B.C.)

Evidence of Paleo-Indian occupation of southern California remains very limited. There is evidence for approximately 75 sites on the southern and central California coast dating to 7500 B.P. (Erlandson and Colten 1991). The earliest accepted dates for human occupation of the California coast are from the Northern Channel Islands, off the Santa Barbara coast. Daisy Cave, located on San Miguel Island, dates to as early as 9,600 cal B.C. (Erlandson et al. 1996). The Arlington Springs site on Santa Rosa Island, human remains have yielded a date of approximately 10,000 B.C. (Johnson et al. 2002). San Diego and Orange counties and the Southern Channel Islands have not produced dates as early as these. However, radiocarbon evidence has dated early occupation of the coastal region between ca. 8000 and 7000 cal B.C. (Byrd and Raab 2007).



As the Ice Age came to a close, the warmer and drier climatic conditions are thought to have created wide-spread cultural responses. The pluvial lakes and streams in the desert interior began to wane and cultures dependent on these water sources migrated to areas with moister conditions, such as the southern California coast (Byrd and Raab 2007).

The San Dieguito Complex is a well-defined expression or cultural pattern of the Paleo-Indian Period in the southern California coastal region and was originally named for the cultural sequence in western San Diego County (Rogers 1929, 1939). Leaf-shaped points and knives, crescents, and scrapers characterize the artifact assemblages throughout the region (Byrd and Raab 2007). San Dieguito sites generally show evidence of the hunting of various animals, including birds, and gathering of plant resources (Moratto 2004).

### **3.1.2 Middle Holocene (ca. 5600–1650 B.C.)**

The Middle Holocene is generally viewed as a time of cultural transition. During this time, the cultural adaptations of the Early Holocene gradually altered. Use of milling stone tools began to appear across most of central and southern California around 6000-5000 B.C., indicating a focus on the collection and processing of hard-shelled seeds. Environmental changes in the Southern Bight are thought to have been the key factor in these changing adaptations (Byrd and Raab 2007). Occupation patterns indicated semi-sedentary populations focused on the bays and estuaries of San Diego and Orange counties, with shellfish and plant resources as the most important dietary components (Warren 1968). In the San Diego area, this adaptive strategy is known as the La Jolla complex.

Sometime around 4,000 years ago, extensive estuarine silting began to cause a decline in shellfish and thus a depopulation of the coastal zone. Settlement shifted to river valleys, and resource exploitation focused on hunting small game and gathering plant resources (Warren 1968; Byrd and Raab 2007).

### **3.1.3 Late Holocene (ca. 1650 B.C.-A.D. 1769)**

The Late Holocene witnessed numerous cultural adaptations. The bow and arrow was adopted sometime after A.D. 500, and ceramics appeared in the area ca. A.D. 1000. Populations were sustained by food surpluses, especially acorns (Byrd and Raab 2007; Kroeber 1925). Other exploited food resources include shellfish, fish, small terrestrial mammals, and small-seeded plants. Settlement patterns of the Late Holocene are characterized by large residential camps linked to smaller specialized camps for resource procurement (Byrd and Raab 2007).

## **3.2 ETHNOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW**

### **3.2.1 Tipai**

The people who traditionally occupied the region along the Pacific coast from central San Diego County southward into Baja California and eastward into Imperial County were originally referred to by Europeans as the Diegueño or Diegueno, because they lived on the lands allotted to Mission San Diego de Alcalá (Carrico 1987; Gifford 1931). Today, the Native Americans



dubbed Diegueno generally refer to themselves as the Kumeyaay (Shipek 1987). Linguistic studies support the division of the Kumeyaay people into northern (Ipai) and southern (Tipai) dialect groups, while often identifying the Desert Kumeyaay of eastern San Diego County, portions of northeastern Baja California, and the majority western portion of Imperial County as Kamia (Gifford 1931, Luomala 1978). As noted by Luomala (1978:592), anthropologists have created “hazily defined” divisions with “cultural and environmental differences shading into one another.” Prior to European contact, the boundary between the Kumeyaay groups was not rigid and the distinction between them likely existed as a gradient rather than a clear division of cultural and political units (Carrico 1987). These groups shared closely related Yuman languages, as well as customs, beliefs, and material culture. This report uses the term Tipai, as the project location is located with the southern portion of Kumeyaay territory.

The Tipai occupied the Pacific coast from La Jolla south to below Ensenada and Todos Santos Bay in Baja California, Mexico. The Northern Kumeyaay (Ipai), occupied the area north of La Jolla to Agua Hedionda Lagoon. Kumeyaay territory extended inland throughout the Cuyamaca and Laguna Mountains into the Yuha and Anza Borrego deserts of Imperial County (Carrico 1987; Luomala 1978). The region includes tremendous environmental variation and resource zones. Neighboring groups included the Luiseño and Cupeño to the northwest, the Cahuilla to the northeast, the Quechan to the east, and the Paipai to the south (Kroeber 1925).

Tipai territory was divided among bands that typically controlled 10–30 miles within a drainage system and up to drainage boundaries. Within each band’s territory was a primary village and a number of secondary homesteads located along tributary creeks (Shipek 1982:297). Each band was composed of 5–15 kinship groups (sibs or *shiiimul*) (Kroeber 1925:719; Shipek 1987:8), some of which were divided among more than one band. Approximately 50–75 named kinship groups were located throughout the entire Kumeyaay territory.

Tipai winter villages were located in sheltered valleys near reliable sources of water with the entire band present. Dwellings in the relatively permanent winter villages were semi-subterranean and roughly circular, with a wooden pole framework covered with brush thatch. The main entrance had a mat covering to keep out the wind and ensure privacy, and ritually faced the east (Luomala 1978:597). Other structures in the village consisted of family-owned platform granaries, a village-owned brush ceremonial enclosure, and sweat lodges. A semi-circular enclosure was used for the *keruk* mourning ceremony, and a rock wall sometimes surrounded ceremonial and dance areas. At their summer camps, ramadas and windbreaks were common, which were built into trees or rock shelters. Granaries and more permanent housing would sometimes be constructed within frequently visited oak groves in the hills and mountains of Tipai territory. The dead were cremated, the ashes buried or placed in ceramic urns that were then buried or placed in caves.

Many Tipai camped in coastal valleys at certain times of the year and gathered coastal resources. Fish were taken with hooks, nets and bows, often from tule boats. Shellfish were gathered from the sandy beaches (e.g., *Chione*, scallops, and *Donax*) and rocky shores (e.g., mussels and abalone). Common game birds included doves and quail; migratory birds included geese. A primary source of protein came from rabbits, woodrats, and other small game living along the mesas and foothills. These animals were caught using throwing sticks, the bow and



arrow, or in nets on community drives. Hunting large game such as deer and mountain sheep was the role of expert hunters trained in specialized hunting folklore (Luomala 1978:601). Land resources generally belonged to the bands with only a few areas considered “tribal” land and open to anyone (Shipek 1982:301).

During the winter season small game and seasonal herbs were collected in the valleys. Greens included miner’s lettuce, clover, pigweed, and grasses. Seeds were harvested from buckwheat, chia and other salvias, and a variety of grasses. In the mountains and foothills, yucca was gathered for its stalks, flowers, and leaves. Elderberry, manzanita, cholla and prickly-pear *Opuntia* cactus, and juniper shrubs provided berries and fruit. The acorns from several species of oak were heavily depended upon, gathered during the late summer, and stored in family and village granaries. For the Tipai, and many other southern California groups, acorns were the primary staple. They were gathered, pounded into flour, and leached of toxic tannins. During the late spring and summer, small groups foraged in favored spots, usually at progressively higher elevations as various resources ripened (Shipek 1987).

All Kumeyaay practiced plant husbandry to “maintain and increase supplies of native foods” (Shipek 1987:12). These practices included: clearing lands for planting seeds of greens, shrubs, and specific trees; sowing grass seed on burned fields; and transplanting wild onions, tobacco, and cuttings of *Opuntia* (nopales or paddle cactus) near village sites.

Tipai clothing was minimal. Men and children wore utilitarian belt sashes and pouches designed to hold tools and small game, while women wore a one or two piece apron made of shredded bark, and a round, twined cap. Robes of rabbit, willow bark or deerskin were worn in the winter and also served as bedding. Sandals woven from agave fibers were worn when traveling long distances (Luomala 1978:599).

Tipai baskets were of high quality and of the same weave and forms found elsewhere in southern California, and carrying nets and sacks were also made and used. Pottery was regularly manufactured and used for water jars, cooking and storage pots, and cremation urns (Kroeber 1925:722). The Tipai made and traded curved clay pipes, stone pipes, and medicine sucking tubes.

Religious mythologies shared by the Tipai and other Kumeyaay groups include abstract spiritual concepts and a higher creator-god (Shipek 1985). *Kuuchama*, or Tecate Peak, was the most sacred landmark. The Kumeyaay believed it was designated by God as the location for acquiring power for good, healing, and peace. Other holy places recognized by all Kumeyaay include *Wee’ishpa* or Signal Mountain, Jacumba Peak, Mt. Woodson, Viejas Mountain, and other mountains beside the Colorado River in the Desert Kumeyaay region (Shipek 1985, 1987:14). Ceremonies among the Kumeyaay are similar to those of other southern California native peoples (Kroeber 1925: 712-717), including puberty rites, marriage, naming, cremation of the dead, and the annual mourning ceremony (keruk) for all those of the sib who had died the previous year. The ceremonial leader, an inherited religious position, conducted these rituals.



### 3.3 HISTORIC OVERVIEW

The post-Contact history of California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish period (1769–1822), the Mexican period (1822–1848), and the American period (1848–present). Each of these periods is briefly described below.

#### 3.3.1 Spanish Period (1769–1822)

Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo in 1542 led the first European expedition to observe what is now called southern California. That year, he landed on Point Loma, approximately 15 miles from the current project area. For more than 200 years, Cabrillo and other Spanish, Portuguese, British, and Russian explorers sailed the Alta (upper) California coast and made limited inland expeditions, but they did not establish permanent settlements (Bean 1968; Rolle 2003).

Gaspar de Portolá and Franciscan Father Junipero Serra established the first Spanish settlement in Alta California at Mission San Diego de Alcalá in 1769. This was the first of 21 missions erected by the Spanish between 1769 and 1823. Mission San Diego and its associated presidio was first built near the Kumeyaay village of *Cosoy*, near the present site of Old Town, before being moved in 1774 to its present location, near the Kumeyaay village of *Nipaguay*. Portolá continued north, reaching San Francisco Bay in 1769. During this period, Spain deeded ranchos to prominent citizens and soldiers, though very few in comparison to the following Mexican Period. To manage and expand their herds of cattle on these large ranchos, colonists enlisted the labor of the surrounding Native American population (Engelhardt 1927a). Sometime after 1800, soldiers and their families began to move towards the base of Presidio Hill in order to receive land grants from the presidio commandants (City of San Diego 2006). The missions were responsible for administering to the local Indians as well as converting the population to Christianity (Engelhardt 1927b). Contact with diseases brought by Europeans, however greatly reduced the Native American population.

#### 3.3.2 Mexican Period (1822–1848)

The Mexican period commenced when news of the success of the Mexican Revolution (1810–1821) against the Spanish crown reached California in 1822. This period was an era of extensive interior land grant development and exploration by American fur trappers west of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The California missions declined in power and were ultimately secularized in 1834. By 1835, the presidio and Mission San Diego de Alcala had been abandoned and lay in ruins (City of San Diego 2006). The hallmark of the Mexican period was large ranchos deeded to prominent Mexican citizens, frequently soldiers, by the governor.

The new Pueblo of San Diego, recognized by the Mexican government in 1834, did not fare as well as other California towns during the Mexican Period. Secularization of the missions in San Diego County caused increased Native American hostilities against the *Californios* during the late 1830s. Attacks on outlying ranchos and an unstable political and economic climate caused San Diego's population to drop from approximately 500 to 150 permanent residents by 1840. In 1838, San Diego was demoted from pueblo status and made a subprefecture of the Los Angeles Pueblo (City of San Diego 2006).



### 3.3.3 American Period (1848–Present)

The United States military occupied San Diego as early as 1846 and effectively ended *Californio* resistance in 1847. The American Period officially began with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, in which the United States agreed to pay Mexico \$15 million for the territory that included California, Nevada, Utah, and parts of Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and Wyoming.

During the early American Period, cattle ranches dominated much of Southern California, although droughts and population growth resulted in farming and urban professions supplanting ranching through the late nineteenth century. The discovery of gold in northern California in 1848 led to the California Gold Rush, leading to a massive increase in population (Guinn 1977). By 1853, the population of California exceeded 300,000. Thousands of settlers and immigrants continued to pour into the state, particularly after the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869. By the 1880s, the railroads had established networks throughout southern California, resulting in fast and affordable shipment of goods, as well as means to transport new residents (Dumke 1944).

#### 3.3.3.1 San Diego County

San Diego County was formally organized in February of 1850 and grew slowly during the next decade. The mid-1800s saw the urbanization of San Diego thanks to the development and promotion of the area by Alonzo Horton, who offered free lots to anyone who would build a house worth \$500. The Santa Fe Railroad began construction in 1880 with the first trains arriving in 1882. After several population booms, San Diego had reached a population of 35,000 by 1888. The population fell again to 17,000 in 1890, after the bottom fell out of the real estate market (City of San Diego 2006).

The twentieth century brought further development to San Diego. A major building campaign was launched by John D. Spreckels in order to modernize the city. Summer cottage retreats began to develop in the beach communities of Ocean Beach and La Jolla. Improvements in public transportation caused development to spread to the areas of University Heights, Greater North Park, and Mission Hills. In 1915, the Panama-California Exposition was held in San Diego in celebration of the opening of the Panama Canal (City of San Diego 2006).

During the 1920s, San Diego's population grew from 74,683 to 147,897, due to the Panama-California Exposition and efforts to attract the Navy to San Diego. The naval and military presence provided the population and economy that allowed the city further development (City of San Diego 2006).

San Diego County continues to be an important military center. One of the largest metropolitan areas in California, San Diego County is a popular vacation destination known for its beaches, mild climate, and urban events.



### 3.3.3.2 *Imperial Beach*

The project area is located within the city of Imperial Beach, in southern San Diego County. The city was founded in 1887 when real estate developer R. R. Morrison filed a subdivision map with the San Diego County Clerk. Later, George Chaffey purchased land to create a retreat for those living in the Imperial Valley and named the area Imperial Beach. In 1909, a pier was constructed with the purpose of generating electricity using wave action. The machinery worked ineffectively for its intended purpose and was eventually disassembled. However, the pier remained and along with the nearby boardwalk and bathhouse attracted many visitors to Imperial Beach until it deteriorated and washed away in 1948. As with the rest of San Diego County, there is a strong naval presence in Imperial Beach. The Naval Auxiliary Landing Field, acquired by the Navy in 1917 and once known as Ream Field, is located in the city of Imperial Beach. In 1945, the Imperial Beach Civic Group was formed in order to represent the interests of Imperial Beach. They created the Fire Protection District and secured county funds for development. In 1956 the city was incorporated as the 327th city in California (City of Imperial Beach 2013).

Today, Imperial Beach continues to grow and develop. It is well known for its fishing pier and annual sandcastle building competition. The city features numerous beaches, parks, and a surfing museum.

## 4.0 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

### 4.1 CALIFORNIA HISTORICAL RESOURCES INFORMATION SYSTEM

At Rincon's request, on September 6, 2012, the South Coastal Information Center (SCIC) located at San Diego State University conducted a search of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS). The search was conducted to identify all previously conducted cultural resources work within the project area and a 0.5-mile radius around it, as well as to identify previously recorded cultural resources within or near the project area. The CHRIS search included a review of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the CRHR, the California Points of Historical Interest list, the California Historical Landmarks list, the Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility list, and the California State Historic Resources Inventory list. The records search also included a review of all available historic USGS 7.5- and 15-minute quadrangle maps.

The SCIC records search identified a total of 15 previous studies within a 0.5-mile radius of the project area, three of which (1120497, 1127415, and 1127422) include small portions of the project area (Table 1). None of these studies identified cultural resources within the current project area boundaries.



**Table 1**  
**Previous Studies Within a 0.5-Mile Radius of the Project Area**

<b>SCIC Report No.</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Study</b>	<b>Relationship to Project Area</b>
1120100	Apple, Stephen a.	1962	Western Salt Industrial Park Archaeological Report.	Outside
1120425	Carrico, Richard and Peter Alsworth	1960	Archaeological Salvage at W-192A Imperial Beach, California	Outside
1120497	Corum, Joyce M.	1976	An Archaeological Survey Report for the Proposed San Diego Bay Route Bikeway	Within
1125137	Pignolo, Andrew	2001	Cultural Resources Survey of the Gravity Float Line Replacement Project	Outside
1126689	Carrico, Richard and Keith Rhodes	1979	Archaeological Testing at W-192A Imperial Beach, California	Outside
1126691	Carrico, Richard	1980	Archaeological Salvage at W-192A	Outside
1127415	Pignolio, Andrew	2000	Archaeological Survey Report for the Coronado Undergrounding Project	Within
1127422	Pignolio, Andrew	2001	Archaeological Survey Report for the Coronado TEA-21 Project	Within
1128140	Pignolio, Andrew R. and Martin D. Rosen	2001	Historic Property Survey Report for the Coronado TEA-21 Project	Outside
1128446	Gallegos, Dennis	1991	Historical/Archaeological Survey Report for Three Potential Sites on the U.S. Naval Radio Receiving Facility	Outside
1128600	Flower, Douglas M.	1982	Cultural Resoruces-Arcaheology and History-Naval Radio Receiving Facility	Outside
1128606	Apple, Steven	1982	Western Salt Industrial Park Archaeological Report	Outside
1128810	McGinnis, Patrick and Michael Baksh	2003	Cultural Resources Survey of the North County Bus Stops Replacement Project	Outside
1128964	Bevil, Alexander D.	2001	San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway Coronado Branch Line Right-Of-Way	Outside
1129348	McCorkle-Apple, Rebecca and Stephen Van Wormer	1995	Archaeological and Architectural Survey for the Naval Radio Receiving Facility	Outside

Source: South Coastal Information Center, 2013

The SCIC records search identified nine previously recorded cultural resources within a 0.5-mile radius of the project area (Table 2). None of these resources is located within the project area; however, one resource (P-37-026582) is located adjacent to the project area. The records search also identified two historic addresses, 522 Elm Avenue and 1008 8<sup>th</sup> Street, south of the project area.



**Table 2**  
**Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within 0.5 Mile of the Project Area**

<b>Site Designation</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>NRHP/CRHR Eligibility Status</b>	<b>Recorded/Updated By and Year</b>	<b>Proximity to Survey Area</b>
P-37-014011	Isolated Prehistoric Flake	Not Eligible	R. Apple, L. Lilburn, and C. Bowden-Renna 1995	Outside
P-37-026582	Historic Salt Works	Recommended NRHP Eligible Under Criteria A and C	C. Gregory and A. Gustafson 2001	Adjacent
CA-SDI-04360	Shell Midden	Insufficient Data	Kaldenberg 1975; A. Pignoli 1999	Outside
CA-SDI-04636	Prehistoric Mound	Insufficient Data	P. Ezell (date unknown)	Outside
CA-SDI-05514	Prehistoric Lithic Artifact and Marine Shell Scatter	Insufficient Data	Corum 1978; R. Apple, L. Lilburn, and C. Bowden-Renna 1995; A. Pignoli 2000	Outside
CA-SDI-12270	Historic Military Site and Prehistoric Midden Site	Insufficient Data	May 1978; R. Apple, L. Lilburn, and C. Bowden-Renna 1995; A. Pignoli 2000; Pignoli and Murray 2001	Outside
CA-SDI-13073	Historic Railroad Grade	Insufficient Data	D. Laylander 1993; A. Pignoli 2000	Outside
CA-SDI-13968	Prehistoric Lithic Artifact and Marine Shell Scatter	Insufficient Data	R. Apple, L. Lilburn, and C. Bowden-Renna 1995; Pignoli 2000; Pignoli 2001	Outside
CA-SDI-13970	Prehistoric Lithic Artifact Scatter	Insufficient Data	R. Apple, L. Lilburn, and C. Bowden-Renna 1995	Outside

Source: South Coastal Information Center, 2013

#### **4.1.2 P-37-026582**

Resource P-37-026582, located adjacent to the project area, is the historic Western Salt Company Salt Works, recorded by Carrie Gregory and Angie Gustafson in 2001. The company has been in operation since the 1860s. The plant consists of eighteen condensation ponds and fourteen crystallization ponds divided by man-made earthen levees. The Salt Works has been recommended eligible for the NRHP under Criterion A because it has played a significant role in the solar salt industry in Southern California and under Criterion C because the plant embodies the distinctive characteristics of a solar salt processing facility (Gregory and Gustafson 2001).

## **4.2 NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

Rincon Consultants initiated Native American coordination for this project on September 7, 2012. As part of the process of identifying cultural resources within or near the project area, we contacted the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to request a review of the Sacred Lands File (SLF). The NAHC faxed a response on September 7, 2012 (Appendix B), which stated that a search of the SLF did not identify Native American cultural resources within a 0.5-mile radius of the project area. The NAHC provided a contact list of 20 Native American individuals or tribal organizations that may have knowledge of cultural resources in or near the project area. Rincon prepared and mailed letters (Appendix B) to each of the NAHC-listed contacts on



September 10, 2012, requesting information regarding any Native American cultural resources within or immediately adjacent to the project area.

As of April 10, 2014, Rincon has not received any responses to the letters.

## **5.0 FIELD SURVEY METHODS**

Rincon cultural resources specialist Hannah Haas conducted a cultural resources survey of the project area on March 27, 2013. The entire project area was surveyed, though approximately 90 percent was covered by pavement and could not be examined for archaeological resources. The remainder of the project area, approximately 10 percent, was intensively examined for cultural resources. The paved portion of the project area (approximately 90 percent) was not intensively surveyed because of lack of ground visibility. Figure 1 in Appendix A depicts the project area.

Ms. Haas walked two transects spaced no greater than 10 meters apart oriented north-south in the unpaved portion of the project area. She examined all exposed ground surface for artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools, ceramics, fire-affected rock [FAR]), ecofacts (marine shell and bone), soil discoloration that might indicate the presence of a cultural midden, soil depressions, and features indicative of the former presence of structures or buildings (e.g., standing exterior walls, postholes, foundations) or historic debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics). Ground disturbances such as burrows were visually inspected.

## **6.0 RESULTS**

The records search, Native American scoping, and field survey identified no cultural resources within project area. One historic resource identified in the records search, P-37-026582, is located adjacent to the project area. This resource has been recommended eligible for NRHP listing. However, based on field survey, this resource does not extend into the project area and will not be impacted by the proposed project. Similarly, construction of the project would not create indirect impacts to the resource. The proposed project would alter only the setting and viewshed of the historic Salt Works, which are not contributing factors to its eligibility. Since 1916, when the plant was rebuilt, the area around the Salt Works has changed dramatically. Therefore, construction of the proposed project would not have an impact on the Western Salt Company Salt Works.

Ground visibility within the unpaved portion of the project area was fair (less than 60 percent; Photographs 1 and 2) due to presences of low grasses. Observed sediments consisted of silty sand. The paved portion of the project area (Photograph 3) has been in use as a recreational vehicle park for the last 38 years. During that time, the park has been improved and renovated.

The survey did not identify any new cultural resources located directly within or adjacent to the project area. No resources important to Native Americans were identified within or near the project area as a result of scoping with the NAHC and Native American contacts.





Photograph 1. View of unpaved portion of project area, facing south.



Photograph 2. View of unpaved portion of project area, facing north.



Photograph 3. View of paved portion of project area, facing east.

## 7.0 MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the results of the records search, Native American scoping, and field survey, Rincon Consultants recommends that no further cultural resources work be conducted for the project. The following measures are recommended in case of unanticipated discoveries.

### 7.1 UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

If cultural resources are encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work in the immediate area must halt and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's *Professional Qualifications Standards* for archaeology (National Park Service 1983) must be contacted immediately to evaluate the find. If the discovery proves to be significant under CEQA, additional work such as data recovery excavation may be warranted.

### 7.2 UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY OF HUMAN REMAINS

The discovery of human remains is always a possibility during ground disturbing activities. If human remains are found the State of California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the county coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. In the event of an unanticipated discovery of human remains, San Diego County County Coroner must be notified immediately. If the human remains are determined to be prehistoric, the coroner will

notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify a most likely descendant (MLD). The MLD shall complete the inspection of the site within 48 hours of notification and may recommend scientific removal and nondestructive analysis of human remains and items associated with Native American burials.



## 8.0 REFERENCES

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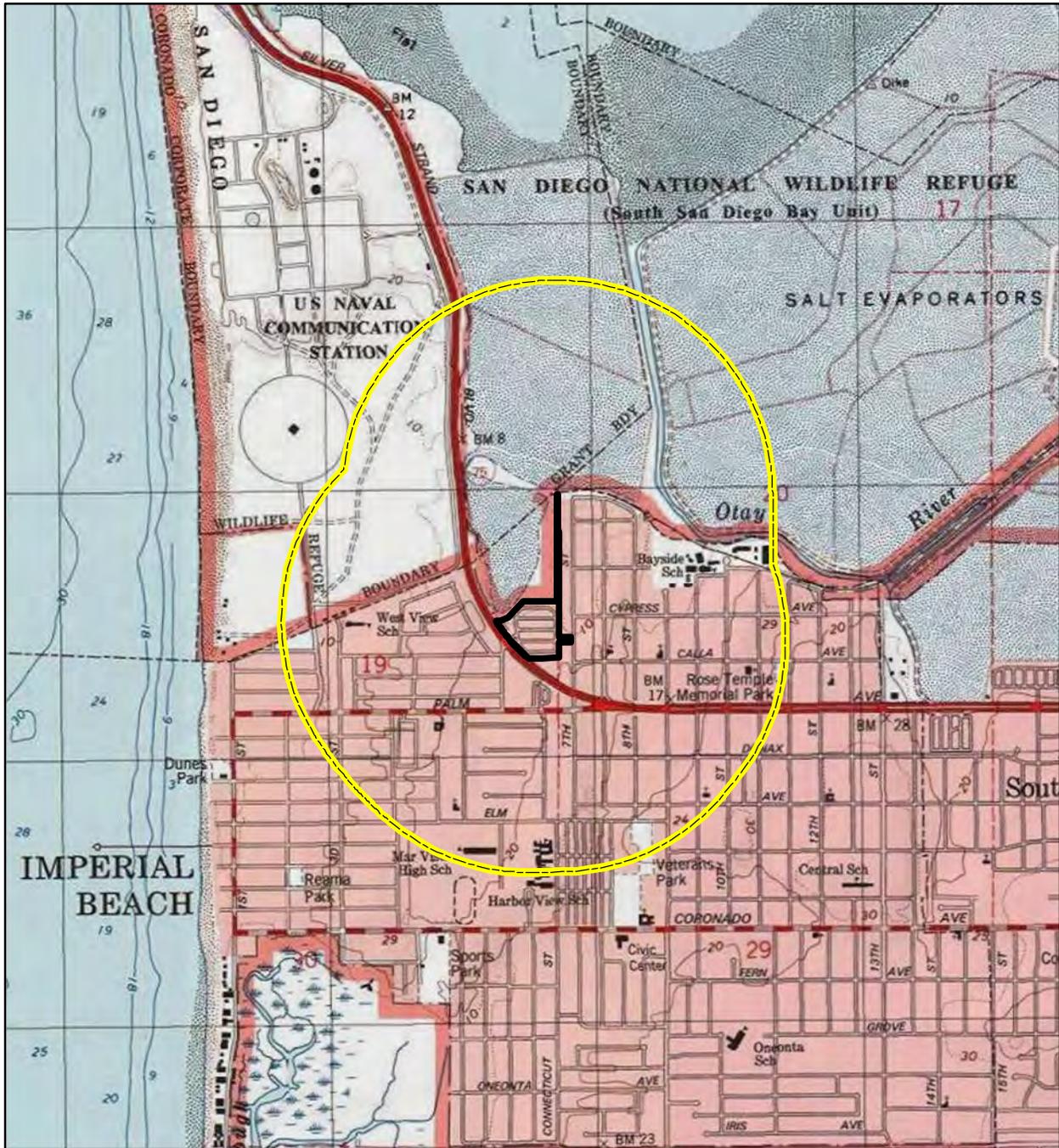
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## **Appendix A**

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Project Location Map



Imagery provided by ESRI and its licensors, 2012. USGS Topo, Copyright: ©2012 National Geographic Society. Imperial Beach Quadrangle. The topographic representation depicted in this map may not portray all of the features currently found in the vicinity today and/or features depicted in this map may have changed since the original topographic map was assembled.

-  Project Area
-  One-Half Mile Buffer



0 1,000 2,000 Feet

0 250 500 Meters

1:24,000

Project Location Map

Figure 1



## **Appendix B**

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Native American Correspondence

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Edmund G. Brown, Jr., Governor

**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
(916) 658-6251  
Fax (916) 657-5390  
Web Site www.nahc.ca.gov  
de\_nahc@pacbell.net



September 7, 2012

Mr. Kevin Hunt, Senior Cultural Resources Consultant

**RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.**

5135 Avenida Encinas, Suite A  
Carlsbad, CA 92008

Sent by FAX to: 760-918-9449

No. of Pages: 6

Re: Sacred Lands File Search and Native American Contacts list for the proposed Sacred Lands File Search and Native American Contacts list for the proposed "**Bernardo Shores Project**;" located on a nine-acre parcel in the City of Imperial Beach area; San Diego County, California

Dear Mr. Hunt:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) conducted a Sacred Lands search based on the data provided and **Native American cultural resource sites were not identified** within one-half mile of the project site, the 'area of potential effect' (e.g. APE): you specified in any of the sections specified. The absence of archaeological fixtures and other cultural resource items does not preclude their existence at the subsurface level. Also, please note; the NAHC Sacred Lands Inventory is not exhaustive and does not preclude the discovery of cultural resources during any project groundbreaking activity..

California Public Resources Code §§5097.94 (a) and 5097.96 authorize the NAHC to establish a Sacred Land Inventory to record Native American sacred sites and burial sites. These records are exempt from the provisions of the California Public Records Act pursuant to California Government Code §6254 (r). The purpose of this code is to protect such sites from vandalism, theft and destruction.

In the 1985 Appellate Court decision (170 Cal App 3rd 604), the court held that the NAHC has jurisdiction and special expertise, as a state agency, over affected Native American resources, impacted by proposed projects including archaeological, places of religious significance to Native Americans and burial sites

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA – CA Public Resources Code §§ 21000-21177, amendments effective 3/18/2010) requires that any project that causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource, that includes archaeological resources, is a 'significant effect' requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) per the CEQA Guidelines defines a significant impact on the environment as 'a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of physical conditions within an area affected by the proposed project, including ... objects of historic or aesthetic significance.' In order to comply with this provision, the lead agency is required to assess

whether the project will have an adverse impact on these resources within the 'area of potential effect (APE), and if so, to mitigate that effect. CA Government Code §65040.12(e) defines "environmental justice" provisions and is applicable to the environmental review processes.

Early consultation with Native American tribes in your area is the best way to avoid unanticipated discoveries once a project is underway. Local Native Americans may have knowledge of the religious and cultural significance of the historic properties of the proposed project for the area (e.g. APE). Consultation with Native American communities is also a matter of environmental justice as defined by California Government Code §65040.12(e). We urge consultation with those tribes and interested Native Americans on the list that the NAHC has provided in order to see if your proposed project might impact Native American cultural resources. Lead agencies should consider avoidance as defined in §15370 of the CEQA Guidelines when significant cultural resources as defined by the CEQA Guidelines §15064.5 (b)(c)(f) may be affected by a proposed project. If so, Section 15382 of the CEQA Guidelines defines a significant impact on the environment as "substantial," and Section 2183.2 which requires documentation, data recovery of cultural resources.

The 1992 *Secretary of the Interiors Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* were revised so that they could be applied to all historic resource types included in the National Register of Historic Places and including cultural landscapes. Also, federal Executive Orders Nos. 11593 (preservation of cultural environment), 13175 (coordination & consultation) and 13007 (Sacred Sites) are helpful, supportive guides for Section 106 consultation. The aforementioned Secretary of the Interior's *Standards* include recommendations for all 'lead agencies' to consider the historic context of proposed projects and to "research" the cultural landscape that might include the 'area of potential effect.'

Partnering with local tribes and interested Native American consulting parties, on the NAHC list, should be conducted in compliance with the requirements of federal NEPA (42 U.S.C 4321-43351) and Section 106 4(f), Section 110 and (k) of the federal NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq*), Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (23 CFR 774); 36 CFR Part 800.3 (f) (2) & .5, the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CSQ, 42 U.S.C 4371 *et seq.* and NAGPRA (25 U.S.C. 3001-3013) as appropriate. The 1992 *Secretary of the Interiors Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* were revised so that they could be applied to all historic resource types included in the National Register of Historic Places and including cultural landscapes. Also, federal Executive Orders Nos. 11593 (preservation of cultural environment), 13175 (coordination & consultation) and 13007 (Sacred Sites) are helpful, supportive guides for Section 106 consultation. The NAHC remains concerned about the limitations and methods employed for NHPA Section 106 Consultation.

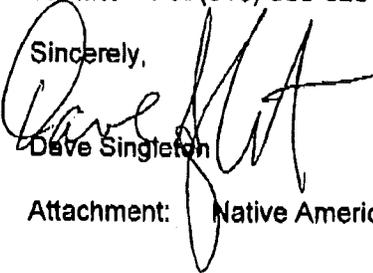
Also, California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98, California Government Code §27491 and Health & Safety Code Section 7050.5 provide for provisions for accidentally discovered archeological resources during construction and mandate the processes to be followed in the event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a project location other than a 'dedicated cemetery', another important reason to have Native American Monitors on board with the project.

To be effective, consultation on specific projects must be the result of an ongoing relationship between Native American tribes and lead agencies, project proponents and their contractors, in the opinion of the NAHC. An excellent way to reinforce the relationship between a project and local tribes is to employ Native American Monitors in all phases of proposed projects including the planning phases.

Confidentiality of "historic properties of religious and cultural significance" may also be protected under Section 304 of the NHPA or at the Secretary of the Interior discretion if not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Secretary may also be advised by the federal Indian Religious Freedom Act (cf. 42 U.S.C., 1996) in issuing a decision on whether or not to disclose items of religious and/or cultural significance identified in or near the APE and possibility threatened by proposed project activity.

If you have any questions about this response to your request, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 653-6251.

Sincerely,



Dave Singleton

Attachment: Native American Contact List

**Native American Contacts  
San Diego County  
September 7, 2012**

Barona Group of the Capitan Grande  
Edwin Romero, Chairperson  
1095 Barona Road Diegueno  
Lakeside, CA 92040  
sue@barona-nsn.gov  
(619) 443-6612  
619-443-0681

Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation  
Daniel Tucker, Chairperson  
5459 Sycuan Road Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
El Cajon, CA 92019  
ssilva@sycuan-nsn.gov  
619 445-2613  
619 445-1927 Fax

La Posta Band of Mission Indians  
Gwendolyn Parada, Chairperson  
PO Box 1120 Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
Boulevard, CA 91905  
gparada@lapostacasino.  
(619) 478-2113  
619-478-2125

Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians  
Anthony R. Pico, Chairperson  
PO Box 908 Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
Alpine, CA 91903  
jrothau@viejas-nsn.gov  
(619) 445-3810  
(619) 445-5337 Fax

San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians  
Allen E. Lawson, Chairperson  
PO Box 365 Diegueno  
Valley Center, CA 92082  
allenl@sanpasqualband.com  
(760) 749-3200  
(760) 749-3876 Fax

Kumeyaay Cultural Historic Committee  
Ron Christman  
56 Viejas Grade Road Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
Alpine, CA 92001  
(619) 445-0385

Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel  
Virgil Perez, Spokesman  
PO Box 130 Diegueno  
Santa Ysabel, CA 92070  
brandietaylor@yahoo.com  
(760) 765-0845  
(760) 765-0320 Fax

Campo Band of Mission Indians  
Ralph Goff, Chairperson  
36190 Church Road, Suite 1 Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
Campo, CA 91906  
chairgoff@aol.com  
(619) 478-9046  
(619) 478-5818 Fax

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

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of the 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 applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed Bernardo Shores Project; located on 9-acres in the City of Imperial Beach area; San Diego County, California for which a Sacred Lands File search and Native American Contacts list were requested.

**Native American Contacts  
San Diego County  
September 7, 2012**

Jamul Indian Village  
Raymond Hunter, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 612 Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
Jamul , CA 91935  
jamulrez@sctdv.net  
(619) 669-4785  
(619) 669-48178 - Fax

Kumeyaay Cultural Repatriation Committee  
Steve Banegas, Spokesperson  
1095 Barona Road Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
Lakeside , CA 92040  
sbenegas50@gmail.com  
(619) 742-5587  
(619) 443-0681 FAX

Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians  
Mark Romero, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 270 Diegueno  
Santa Ysabel, CA 92070  
mesagrandeband@msn.com  
(760) 782-3818  
(760) 782-9092 Fax

Ewiiapaayp Tribal Office  
Will Micklin, Executive Director  
4054 Willows Road Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
Alpine , CA 91901  
wmicklin@leaningrock.net  
(619) 445-6315 - voice  
(619) 445-9126 - fax

Kwaaymii Laguna Band of Mission Indians  
Carmen Lucas  
P.O. Box 775 Diegueno -  
Pine Valley , CA 91962  
(619) 709-4207

Ewiiapaayp Tribal Office  
Michael Garcia, Vice Chairperson  
4054 Willows Road Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
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michaelg@leaningrock.net  
(619) 445-6315 - voice  
(619) 445-9126 - fax

Inaja Band of Mission Indians  
Rebecca Osuna, Chairman  
2005 S. Escondido Blvd. Diegueno  
Escondido , CA 92025  
(760) 737-7628  
(760) 747-8568 Fax

Ipai Nation of Santa Ysabel  
Clint Linton, Director of Cultural Resources  
P.O. Box 507 Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
Santa Ysabel, CA 92070  
cjlinton73@aol.com  
(760) 803-5694  
cjlinton73@aol.com

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

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of the 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 applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed Bernardo Shores Project; located on 8-acres in the City of Imperial Beach area; San Diego County, California for which a Sacred Lands File search and Native American Contacts list were requested.

**Native American Contacts  
San Diego County  
September 7, 2012**

Manzanita Band of the Kumeyaay Nation  
Leroy J. Elliott, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 1302 Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
Boulevard , CA 91905  
ljbirdsinger@aol.com  
(619) 766-4930  
(619) 766-4957 - FAX

Kumeyaay Diegueno Land Conservancy  
Mr. Kim Bactad, Executive Director  
2 Kwaaypaay Court Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
El Cajon , CA 91919  
guassacl@onebox.com  
(619) 445-0238 - FAX  
(619) 659-1008 - Office  
kimbactad@gmail.com

Inter-Tribal Cultural Resource Protection Council  
Frank Brown, Coordinator  
240 Brown Road Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
Alpine , CA 91901  
frankbrown6928@gmail.com  
(619) 884-6437

Kumeyaay Cultural Repatriation Committee  
Bernice Paipa, Vice Spokesperson  
1095 Barona Road Diegueno/Kumeyaay  
Lakeside , CA 92040  
(619) 478-2113  
(KCRC is a Colation of 12  
Kumeyaay Governments

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

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of the statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.6 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 applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed Bernardo Shores Project; located on 9-acres in the City of Imperial Beach area; San Diego County, California for which a Sacred Lands File search and Native American Contacts list were requested.

September 10, 2012

La Posta Band of Mission Indians  
Gwendolyn Parada, Chairperson  
PO Box 1120  
Boulevard, CA 91905

**RE: Cultural Resources Study for the Bernardo Shores Project, Imperial Beach, San Diego County, California**

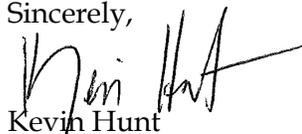
Dear Chairperson Parada:

Rincon Consultants has been retained to conduct a cultural resources study for the Bernardo Shores Project in the city of Imperial Beach, San Diego County, California. The proposed project entails the residential development of nine acres currently used as a recreational vehicle park. The project is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act.

As part of the process of identifying cultural resources issues for this project, Rincon contacted the Native American Heritage Commission and requested a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search and a list of Native American tribal organizations and individuals who may have knowledge of sensitive cultural resources in or near the project area. The SLF search results stated that "Native American cultural resource sites were not identified" within 0.5 mile of the project area but recommended that we consult with you directly regarding your knowledge of the presence of cultural resources that may be impacted by this project.

If you have knowledge of cultural resources that may exist within or near the project area, please contact me in writing at the above address or [khunt@rinconconsultants.com](mailto:khunt@rinconconsultants.com), or by telephone at (760) 918-9444, extension 208. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Kevin Hunt  
Cultural Resources Program Manager

Enclosure: Project Location Map