

APPENDIX 5

IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

**NEW POTABLE WATER WELL AND
PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECTS**

**In the Community of Frazier Park
Kern County, California**

For Submittal to:

Frazier Park Public Utility District
4020 Park Drive
Frazier Park, CA 93225

and

State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street/P.O. Box 944212
Sacramento, CA 94244

Prepared for:

Tom Dodson and Associates
2150 N. Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92405

Prepared by:

CRM TECH
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324

Bai “Tom” Tang, Principal Investigator
Daniel Ballester, Principal Investigator

June 28, 2026
CRM TECH Contract No. 4397

Title: Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties: New Potable Water Well and Pipeline Replacement Projects, In the Community of Frazier Park, Kern County, California

Authors: Bai “Tom” Tang, Principal Investigator/Historian
Elizabeth Beckner, Archaeologist/Report Writer
Melissa Portilla, Archaeologist

Consulting Firm: CRM TECH
1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B
Colton, CA 92324
(909) 824-6400

Date: June 28, 2026

For Submittal to: Frazier Park Public Utility District
4020 Park Drive
Frazier Park, CA 93225
(661) 245-3734
and
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street/P.O. Box 944212
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 341-5057

Prepared for: Kaitlyn Dodson-Hamilton, Vice President
Tom Dodson and Associates
2150 N. Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92405
(909) 882-3612

USGS Quadrangle: Frazier Mountain, Calif., 7.5’ quadrangle (Section 31 of T9N R19W and Sections 25, 35, and 36 of T9N R20W, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian)

Project Size: Approximately 0.35 acres and 18,300 linear feet of pipeline alignments

Keywords: San Emigdio Mountains, southern Kern County; Phase I cultural resources survey; CEQA-Plus; no “historic properties” or “historical resources” affected pursuant to CEQA and Section 106 of NHPA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Between April and June 2026, at the request of Tom Dodson and Associates, CRM TECH performed a Phase I cultural resources study on the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the Frazier Park Public Utilities District's (FPPUD) proposed New Potable Water Well and Pipeline Replacement Projects in the unincorporated community of Frazier Park, Kern County, California. The APE consists of a 0.35-acre well site on the south side of Frazier Mountain Park Road, near the intersection with Carnellia Trail, and approximately 18,300 linear feet of pipeline rights-of-way lying mostly along various public roadways. The entire APE lies within Section 31 of T9N R19W and Sections 25, 35, and 36 of T9N R20W, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, as depicted in the United States Geological Survey Frazier Mountain, California, 7.5' quadrangle. The vertical extent of the APE, represented by the maximum depth of excavation required for the undertaking, is estimated to be four to six feet below surface.

This study is a part of the environmental review process for the proposed installation of FPPUD Well No. 8 and the replacement of potable water distribution pipelines in three of the district's service areas, namely Summit Area, Lower Summit Area, and Texas Trail. As the lead agency for the project, FPPUD required the study pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Because the project will be partially funded by a federal grant administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), the study was conducted in accordance with the provisions of both CEQA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), in a process known as CEQA-Plus. The purpose of the study is to provide FPPUD and SWRCB with the necessary information and analysis to determine whether the undertaking would have an adverse effect on any "historic properties," as defined by 36 CFR 800.16(l), or "historical resources," as defined by California PRC §5020.1(j), that may exist in or adjacent to the APE.

In order to accomplish this objective, CRM TECH conducted a historical/archaeological resources records search, initiated a Sacred Lands File search, contacted local Native American representatives, pursued historical and geoarchaeological background research, and carried out an intensive-level field survey. Throughout the various avenues of research, the only potential "historic property"/"historical resource" identified in close proximity to the APE is Site 15-020579, the Southern California Edison Frazier Park-Gorman 66kV Transmission Line from the early 1960s, which was previously determined not to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources when it was first recorded in 2019. As such, it does not meet the statutory and regulatory definition a "historic property" or a "historical resource." Furthermore, the field survey demonstrates that the transmission line lies beyond the vertical extent of the APE.

Based on the research results summarized above, this study concludes that no "historic properties" or "historical resources" are known to be present within the APE. Meanwhile, the subsurface sediments in the vertical APE appear to be relatively low in sensitivity for buried archaeological remains of prehistoric origin. In light of these findings, and pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1) and Calif. PRC §21084.1, CRM TECH recommends to FPPUD and SWRCB a conclusion that no "historic properties" or "historical resources" will be affected by the proposed undertaking. No further cultural resources investigation is recommended for the undertaking unless project plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study. However, if buried cultural materials are discovered during earth-moving operations associated with the undertaking, all work in the immediate area should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	i
INTRODUCTION	1
SETTING	4
Current Natural Setting	4
Cultural Setting	5
Archaeological Context	5
Ethnohistoric Context	6
Historic Context	7
RESEARCH METHODS	8
Records Search.....	8
Native American Participation.....	8
Historical Background Research.....	9
Geoarchaeological Analysis.....	9
Field Survey	9
RESULTS AND FINDINGS.....	9
Records Search.....	9
Native American Participation.....	10
Historical Background Research.....	12
Geoarchaeological Analysis.....	12
Field Survey	14
MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS	16
Applicable Statutory/Regulatory Frameworks	16
Discussion	17
Conclusion and Recommendations.....	18
REFERENCES	18
APPENDIX 1: Personnel Qualifications	21
APPENDIX 2: Correspondence with Native American Representatives	25

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Project vicinity.....	1
Figure 2. Area of Potential Effects	2
Figure 3. Satellite image of the APE	3
Figure 4. Typical landscapes within the APE.....	4
Figure 5. Previous study coverage in the vicinity	11
Figure 6. The APE and vicinity in 1874-1880.....	12
Figure 7. The APE and vicinity in 1900-1901	13
Figure 8. The APE and vicinity in 1942	13
Figure 9. The APE and vicinity in 1942-1958.....	14
Figure 10. Geologic map of the APE and vicinity.....	15
Figure 11. Wooden power pole at Site 15-020579	16

INTRODUCTION

Between April and June 2026, at the request of Tom Dodson and Associates, CRM TECH performed a Phase I cultural resources study on the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the Frazier Park Public Utilities District's (FPPUD) proposed New Potable Water Well and Pipeline Replacement Projects in the unincorporated community of Frazier Park, Kern County, California (Fig. 1). The APE consists of a 0.35-acre well site on the south side of Frazier Mountain Park Road, near the intersection with Carnellia Trail, and approximately 18,300 linear feet of pipeline rights-of-way lying mostly along various public roadways. The entire APE lies within Section 31 of T9N R19W and Sections 25, 35, and 36 of T9N R20W, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, as depicted in the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Frazier Mountain, California, 7.5' quadrangle (Figs. 2, 3). The vertical extent of the APE, represented by the maximum depth of excavation required for the undertaking, is estimated to be four to six feet below surface.

This study is a part of the environmental review process for the proposed installation of FPPUD Well No. 8 and the replacement of potable water distribution pipelines in three of the district's service areas, namely Summit Area, Lower Summit Area, and Texas Trail. As the lead agency for the project, FPPUD required the study pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Because the project will be partially funded by a federal grant administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), the study was conducted in accordance with the provisions of both CEQA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), in a process known as CEQA-Plus. The purpose of the study is to provide FPPUD and SWRCB with the

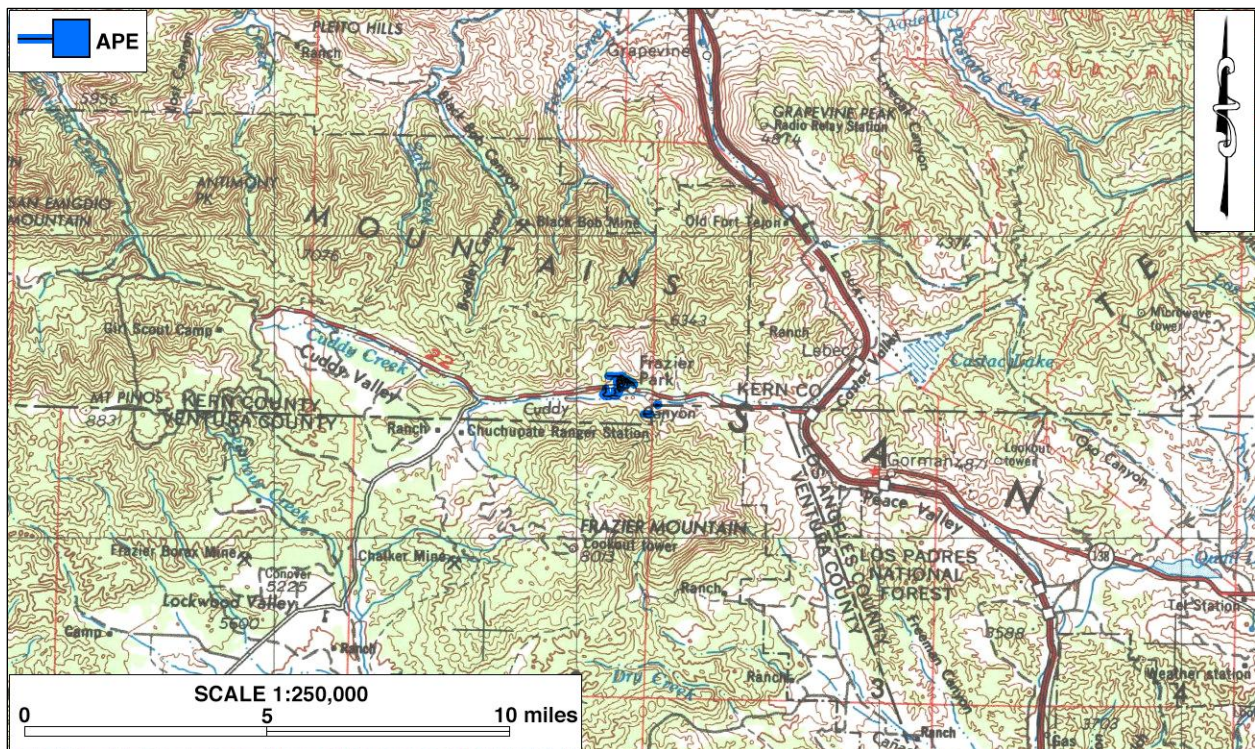


Figure 1. Project vicinity. (Based on USGS Los Angeles, Calif., 120'x60' quadrangle [USGS 1975])

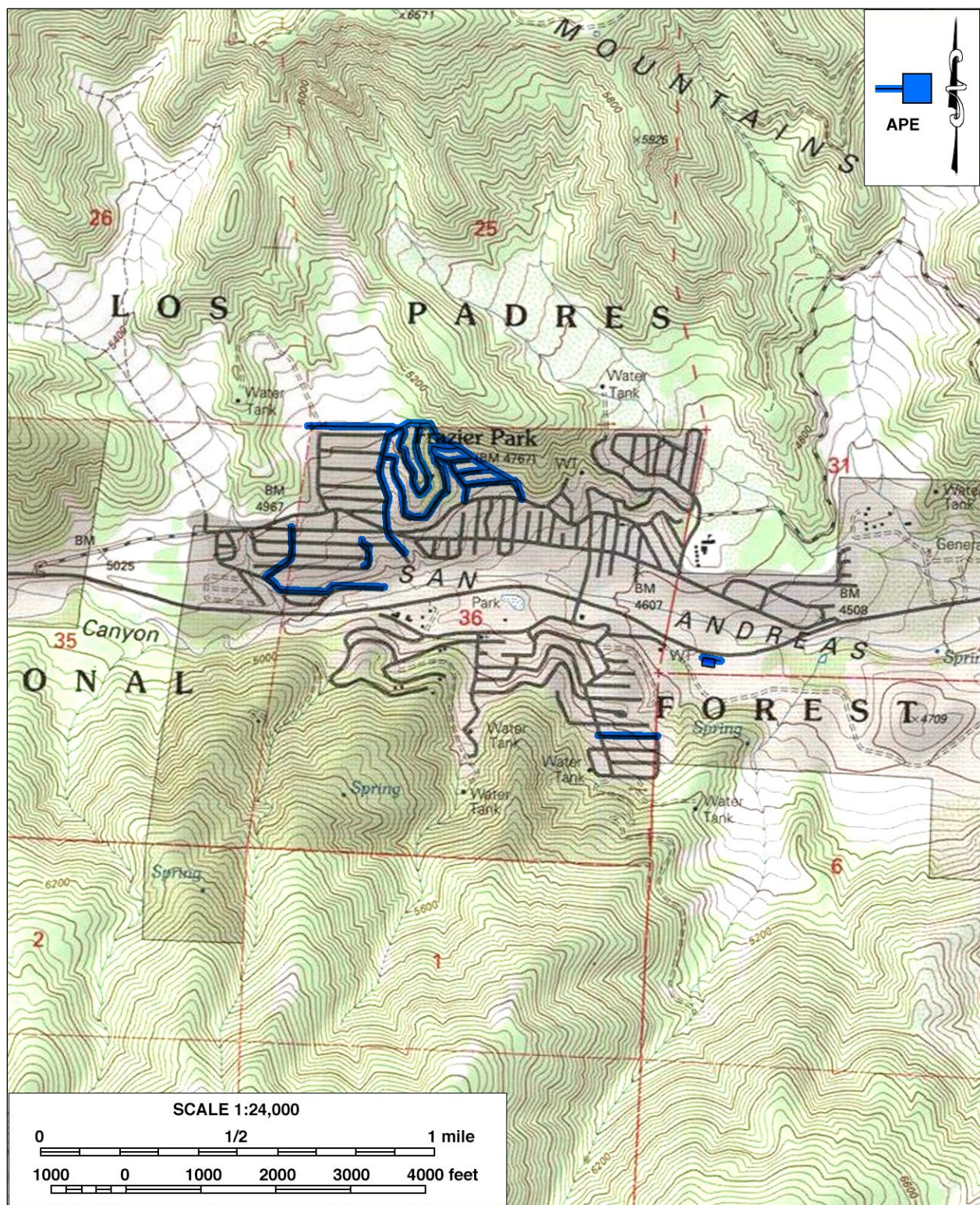


Figure 2. Area of Potential Effects. (Based on USGS Frazier Mountain, Calif., 7.5' quadrangle [USGS 1996])

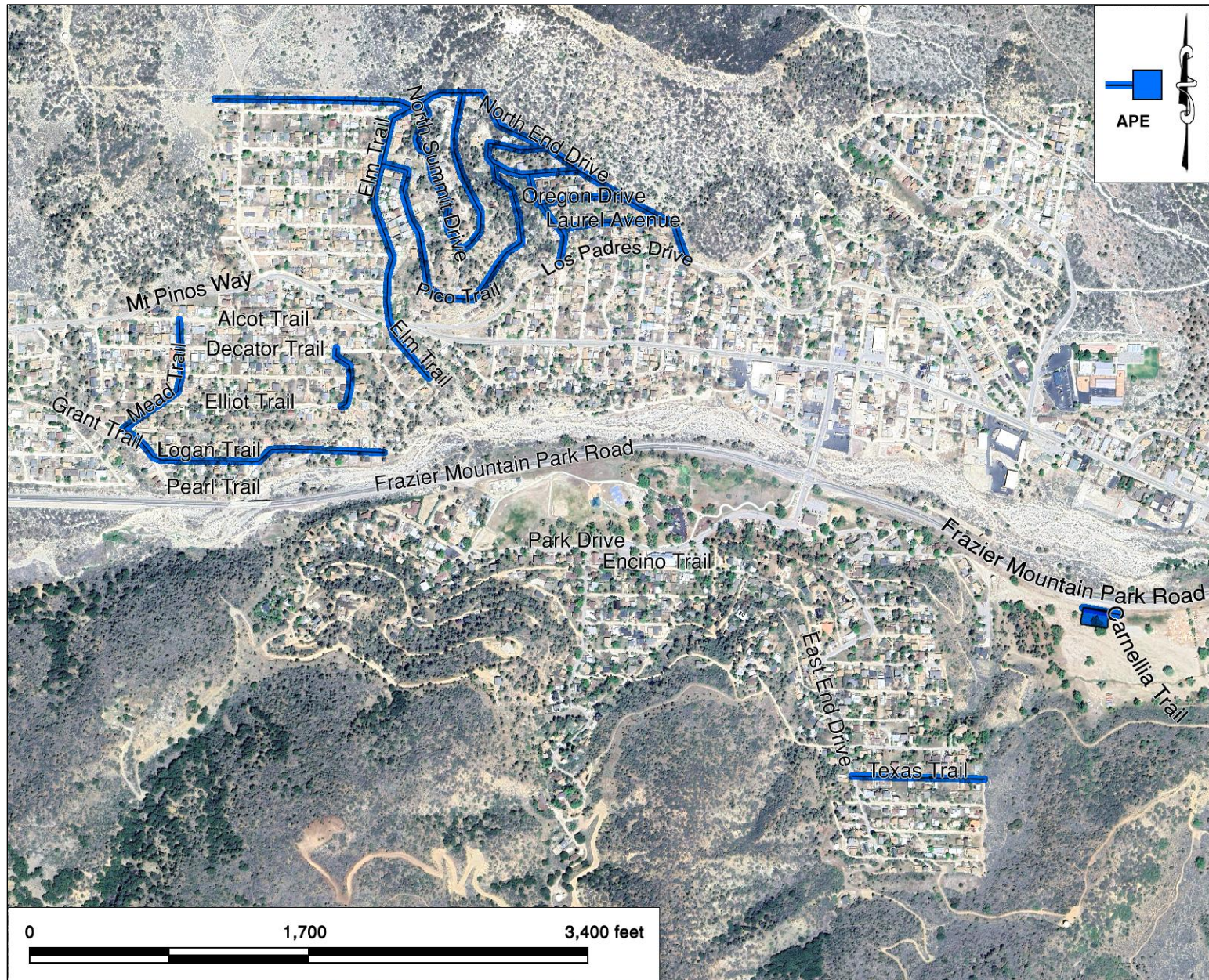


Figure 3. Satellite image of the APE.

necessary information and analysis to determine whether the undertaking would have an adverse effect on any “historic properties,” as defined by 36 CFR 800.16(l), or “historical resources,” as defined by California PRC §5020.1(j), that may exist in or adjacent to the APE.

In order to accomplish this objective, CRM TECH conducted a historical/archaeological resources records search, initiated a Sacred Lands File search, contacted local Native American representatives, pursued historical and geoarchaeological background research, and carried out an intensive-level field survey. The following report is a complete account of the methods and results of the various avenues of research and the final conclusion of the study. Personnel who participated in the study are named in the appropriate sections, and their qualifications are provided in Appendix 1.

SETTING

CURRENT NATURAL SETTING

The community of Frazier Park is situated northeast of Frazier Mountain and southeast of Tecuya Mountain, both of which are within the San Emigdio Mountains. These mountains mark the southern boundary of the San Joaquin Valley and are adjacent to the Tehachapi and Temblor Mountain ranges (Hall 2007:316). The natural environment of the region is characterized by its temperate Mediterranean climate, featuring warm, dry summers and cool, wet winters with summer highs occasionally reaching just over 90 degrees Fahrenheit and winter lows averaging in the low 30s. Typical annual rainfall in the area is approximately 10-14 inches, with an average of 2-3 inches of snow in the winter.

As stated above, other than the proposed site of Well No. 8, the APE lies mostly within the existing rights-of-way various public roadways, including Elm Trail, Pico Trail, North Summit Drive, North End Drive, Manita Trail, Oakdale Drive, Oregon Drive, Laurel Avenue, Julin Trail, Logan Trail, Mead Trail, Grant Trail, and Texas Trail, all of them currently unpaved (Fig. 4). Elevations in the



Figure 4. Typical landscapes within the APE. *Left*: proposed site of Well No. 8, view to the northwest; *right*: pipeline alignment along Manita Trail and Pico Trail, view to the north. (Photographs taken on May 19, 2026)

APE range approximately from 4,560 feet to 5,074 feet above mean sea level. The surface soil in the APE consists primarily of granite and decomposing granite, with some milky quartz, quartzite, and some rocks containing a reddish color, which is indicative of oxidized iron. Vegetation within the APE reflects a transitional zone habitat, combining elements of the Chaparral, Pinyon-Juniper Woodland, Sagebrush Scrub, and Yellow Pine Forest plant communities with elements of each community being represented. Animals commonly found in this area are the California mountain kingsnake, northern alligator lizard, and the white-headed woodpecker.

CULTURAL SETTING

Archaeological Context

The earliest evidence of human occupation in the southern San Joaquin Valley, the southernmost portion of California's Central Valley, was discovered at the Witt locality at Tulare Lake and published by West et al. in 2009, providing some of the earliest human skeletal materials in North America (Garfinkel 2015:3). Uranium-thorium testing at the Witt locality resulted in uncalibrated dates of 11,379, 11,380, and 15,802 years before present (B.P.) (Garfinkel 2015:3). The Tulare Lake area has been documented as one of the richest Paleoindian localities in the State of California (Garfinkel 2015:3).

The cultural history of the project vicinity has been summarized into several chronologies, integrating available archaeological data from many studies conducted in the southern Sierra Nevada. The prehistory of the greater southern San Joaquin Valley has been the focus of McGuire and Garfinkel (1980), whose work has been utilized to create prehistoric phases for the region from 4000 B.C. to present times (Moratto 1984:333; Getchell and Atwood 2009:6). More recently, the following general framework proposes three primary periods, based on Garfinkel (2015), although the beginning and ending dates of the recognized cultural horizons vary among different parts of the region:

- Paleoindian Period (ca. 16,000-8,550 B.P.): Native peoples of this period created fluted spearhead bases designed to be hafted to wooden shafts, possibly indicative of hunting now-extinct megafauna. The distinctive method of thinning bifaces and spearhead preforms by removing long, linear flakes left diagnostic Paleoindian markers at tool-making sites. Other artifacts associated with the Paleoindian toolkit include choppers, cutting tools, retouched flakes, and perforators. Sites from this period are very sparse across the landscape and most are deeply buried.
- Archaic Period (ca. 8,550 B.P.-1000 A.D.): Archaic sites are characterized by abundant lithic scatters of considerable size with many biface thinning flakes, bifacial preforms broken during manufacture, and well-made groundstone bowls and basin metates. Diverse architectural features such as house floors and significant deposits of refuse materials reflect both land- and water-associated subsistence activities. Cultural materials from the Archaic Period include temporally diagnostic forms of beads and ornaments manufactured from *Haliotis* and *Olivella* shells. Spindle-shaped charmstones are also identified. The Archaic Period can be further broken down into lower, middle, and upper phases.
- Emergent Period (ca. 1000-1776 A.D.): Sites from this period typically contain small lithic scatters from the manufacture of small arrow points, expedient groundstone tools such as tabular

metates and unshaped manos, wooden mortars with stone pestles, acorn or mesquite bean granaries, ceramic vessels, shell beads suggestive of extensive trading networks, and steatite implements such as pipes and arrow shaft straighteners. The bow and arrow replace the dart and atlatl at sites from the Emergent Period. Specialized sites of local shell bead manufacturing are recognized by the presence of bead blanks and manufacturing debris, a pattern that might indicate the introduction of monetized systems of exchange.

Ethnohistoric Context

The APE lies in an area where the traditional territories of the interior Chumash and the Tataviam adjoined and overlapped with each other. The homeland of the Chumash was primarily the coastal region from Morro Bay in the north to Malibu Canyon in the south, including the Santa Barbara Channel Islands, and inland to the San Joaquin and Simi Valleys (Grant 1978a). The Tataviam held a smaller territory along the upper Santa Clara River drainage, primarily on the south-facing slopes of the Liebre and Sawmill Mountains (King and Blackburn 1978), but they may have also used and inhabited the vicinity of the APE.

The subsistence strategy and material culture of the interior Chumash and the Tataviam were defined by the surrounding landscape of the San Emigdio Mountains and southern San Joaquin Valley. Gathering, hunting, and fishing were based on seasonal environmental cycles. The spring was a time for gathering basketry material from stalks, and edible bulbs were collected before flowering, while summer was ideal for gathering berries, seeds, and grains (Anderson 2005). Autumn saw the gathering of acorns in the foothills and pine nuts in the mountains. It was also a preferred time to hunt rabbits, as their fur was thickening for winter, and trap quail as they migrated from the mountains to the foothills (Anderson 2005). Winter weather promoted the gathering of basketry material from the bark of shrubs and trees, and wood for arrows before excessive moisture was pulled into the stalks or leaves sprouted. Big game such as bear and bobcat were hunted in winter as well.

As the landscape defined their subsistence practices, the tending and cultivation practices of the interior Chumash and the Tataviam helped shape the landscape. As throughout most of indigenous California, they likely practiced controlled burning of chaparral and oak woodland areas to create an open countryside with more accessible foraging material for animals, which in turn led to more successful hunting (Anderson 2005). It also increased the ease with which plant foods could be gathered, and prevented out-of-control wildfires by eliminating dead undergrowth before it accumulated to dangerous levels. The practice of coppicing, or trimming plants to the ground, resulted in straighter growth for basketry and arrow-making materials (Anderson 2005). Granitic outcrops would have been used for pounding and grinding nuts and seeds, leaving their mark in the resulting bedrock milling features.

The establishment of five Spanish missions along the coastline in Chumash country, between 1772 and 1804, began a rapid decline of indigenous cultures and customs, and by the early 1800s virtually all of the Chumash population had been incorporated into the mission system (Grant 1978a). Presently, although the Chumash occupied a large territory and resource base, most of the available information describing the Chumash people and lifeways deals primarily with the coastal and island populations and not the interior populations (Grant 1978a; King 1981).

Chumash society was organized at the chiefdom level, with each village having a chief who received their title on a patrilineal basis (Grant 1978b). The chiefs were typically male, but a daughter or sister could inherit the position from a deceased chief (Grant 1978b). The power of the village chief was somewhat limited, primarily to the roles of war leaders and ceremonial hosts (Grant 1978b; Kroeber 1925). Little is known of Chumash ceremonial practices, although Kroeber (1925) suggested that the prolific rock paintings found throughout their territory likely had ceremonial connotations, perhaps related to a toloache cult. The primary role of the shaman appears to be curative, with each shaman possessing a guardian spirit and specific powers such as the ability to handle rattlesnakes or control the weather (Grant 1978b). The Chumash are the only tribe in the region to bury, rather than cremate, their dead (Kroeber 1925).

Pre-contact population estimates for the Chumash range from 8,000 to 20,000, scattered among an estimated 26 to 46 villages (Grant 1978a). The Chumash had at least six distinct languages, all belonging to the Hokan language family (Grant 1978a; Kroeber 1925). A decline in population began under Spanish rule (1769-1822) and continued through the Mexican and early American Periods (Grant 1978a; Kroeber 1925). Although many organized bands of Chumash descendants exist today throughout southern and central California, only the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians is federally recognized (Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians 2018). There has been a resurgence of traditional ceremonies in recent years, and the language, traditional skills, songs, and stories are now being taught to the youngest generations (Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians 2018).

In contrast to the large-scale society of the Chumash, Tataviam social organization was on the hunter-gatherer level, with villages ranging in size from roughly 200 people to 10-15 people (King and Blackburn 1978). The Tataviam as a whole appear to have been a small group with population estimates at the time of European contact ranging around 1,000 people (King and Blackburn 1978). Much of what is known of the Tataviam comes from the archaeological record, which suggests that ritual life among the Tataviam and the Chumash may have been similar (Elsasser and Heizer 1963). The San Fernando Mission had baptized virtually all of the Tataviam by 1810, and within 25 years most Tataviam had been absorbed into other groups through intermarriage (King and Blackburn 1978). The last speaker of the Tataviam language had passed away by 1916, at which point little firsthand linguistic and ethnographic information had been collected.

Historic Context

Although Spanish explorers, most notably Pedro Fages and Francisco Garcés, are known to have traveled through the area as early as the 1770s, such explorations left little lasting impact on the southern San Joaquin Valley. Due to its remote location from the coastline, the present-day Frazier Park area remained largely untouched by the colonization activities during the Spanish and Mexican Periods, and the earliest non-Native settlement did not take place until mid-19th century, after the American annexation of Alta California. The first American known to have explored the southern Sierra Nevada was Joseph R. Walker, who entered the Kern River valley in 1834 (Southern Sierra Properties n.d.). In the winter of 1845-1846, Walker led the expedition of artist Edward M. Kern into the area, for whom Kern County would eventually be named (Southern Sierra Properties n.d.).

The most dramatic development across much of central California was brought on by the discovery of gold, with a local boom hitting the southern Sierra Nevada in the mid-1850s (Kern Valley

Museum n.d.). Agricultural activities in the region grew largely in support of the mining economy and the military outpost at Fort Tejon, established in 1860 (Macko et al. 1993:39). Starting in the early 1860s, as the result of a devastating drought and the increased demand for wool during the Civil War, the area's farmers and ranchers shifted their focus to sheep-raising (Macko et al. 1993:39). The first Euro-Americans to settle in the present-day Lake of the Woods/Frazier Park area were the Cuddy family, headed by the chief herder for the fort, John Cuddy, who established a ranch and a mining claim (Troxel and Morten 1962:51; Kane 2017a).

In 1925, Joseph "Don" Cuddy, son of John Cuddy, and his wife Florence subdivided the eastern portion of the family ranch, creating the community that they named Lake of the Woods in anticipation of the lake that they eventually created (Kane 2017a). The youngest of John Cuddy's children, Marcus, built a home with his wife, Dessie, in what is now Frazier Mountain Park (Kane 2017b). After they divorced, Dessie Cuddy acquired 800 acres of land that eventually ended up in the hands of developers from Glendale who planned to turn the area into a modern country club complete with a golf course, clubhouse, riding stables, seven lakes, and rustic cabins (*ibid.*). The golf course never materialized, but the clubhouse, five small lakes, stables, swimming pool, bath house, and several pathways leading to picnic areas were built circa 1924-1925 (*ibid.*; Schmidt and Schmidt 2009). In 1952, the clubhouse was severely damaged by an earthquake and six years later, in 1958, the structure was restored and expanded into the building currently in use as a community facility (Schmidt and Schmidt 2009).

RESEARCH METHODS

RECORDS SEARCH

The historical/archaeological resources record search for this study was conducted on May 11, 2026, by the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) at California State University, Bakersfield, which is the State of California's official cultural resource records repository for Kern County. The purpose of the records search is to compile a complete inventory of previously identified cultural resources and existing studies within a one-mile radius of the project location. Previously identified cultural resources include properties designated as California Historical Landmarks or Points of Historical Interest as well as those listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, or the California Historical Resources Inventory.

NATIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION

On May 14, 2026, CRM TECH submitted a written request to the State of California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for a records search in the commission's Sacred Lands File. Following NAHC's recommendations and previously established consultation protocol, CRM TECH archaeologists/Native American liaison Nina Gallardo and Eulices Lopez contacted a total of 13 tribal representatives in the region, both in writing and by telephone, between May 18 and June 4, 2026, for additional information on potential Native American cultural resources in or near the APE. The correspondence between CRM TECH and the Native American representatives is attached to this report as Appendix 2.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Historical background research for this study was conducted by CRM TECH principal investigator/historian Bai “Tom” Tang. Sources consulted during the research included published literature in local and regional history, historical maps of the Frazier Park area, and aerial/satellite photographs of the project vicinity. Among the maps consulted for this study were the U.S. General Land Office (GLO) land survey plat maps dated 1880-1881 and USGS topographic maps dated 1903-1996, which are accessible at the websites of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the USGS. The aerial/satellite photographs, taken between 1956 and 2025, are available at the Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR) Online website and through the Google Earth software.

GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

As a part of the research procedures, CRM TECH archaeologist/report writer Elizabeth Beckner pursued geoarchaeological analysis to assess the APE’s potential for the deposition and preservation of subsurface cultural deposits from the prehistoric period, which cannot be detected through a standard surface archaeological survey. Sources consulted for this purpose included primarily topographic and geologic maps and reports pertaining to the surrounding area. Findings from these sources were used to develop a geomorphologic history of the APE and address geoarchaeological sensitivity of the vertical APE.

FIELD SURVEY

On May 19, 2026, CRM TECH archaeologist Melissa Portilla carried out the field survey of the APE. The proposed site of Well No. 8 was surveyed by walking a series of parallel transects oriented northeast-southwest and spaced five meters (approximately 15 feet) apart, and the pipeline alignments were also surveyed on foot. In this way, the ground surface in the entire APE was systematically and carefully examined for any evidence of human activities dating to the prehistoric or historic period (i.e., 50 years or older). Ground visibility was good (90-95%) both at the well site and along the various dirt roads as vegetation was sparse.

RESULTS AND FINDINGS

RECORDS SEARCH

According to SSJVIC records, four previous cultural resources surveys completed between 1987 and 2004 covered portions of the APE (Galbraith 2001; Schiffman 1987; 1998; Schmidt 1999), while one survey covered the entirety of the project area (McKenna 2004; Fig. 5). None of these previous studies identified any cultural resources within the project area. As all of these studies are now more than 20 years old, they are deemed out-of-date for statutory compliance purposes today.

SSJVIC records further indicate that a linear cultural resource of historical origin, designated Site 15-020579, was previously recorded as lying across the APE. Representing the Southern California Edison Frazier Park-Gorman 66kV Transmission Line, the site crosses the APE at the intersection of Mead Trail and Alcot Trail and at the intersection of Elm Trail and Mt. Pinos Way. Spanning 13.2 miles between substations in Frazier Park and Gorman, it was constructed in 1962 and consists of

single wood poles throughout. As it demonstrates no special merits or important historical associations, the transmission line was determined not to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources when it was first recorded in 2019 (Urbana Preservation and Planning 2019:2).

Outside the APE but within the one-mile scope of the records search, SSJVIC records show 20 other studies on various tracts of land and linear features. In all, approximately 40 percent of the land within the scope of the records search has been surveyed (Fig. 5), which has resulted in the identification of six additional historical/archaeological sites, as listed below in Table 1. Two of these sites were of prehistoric—i.e., Native American—origin and consisted of bedrock milling features and a lithic scatter. The other four sites dated to the historic period and consisted of refuse scatters, a water tank, and the Frazier Park Community Park with associated facilities. None of these six sites was found in the immediate vicinity of the APE. Therefore, none of them requires further consideration during this study.

Table 1. Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within the Scope of the Records Search)		
Resource Number	Date Recorded	Description
15-002455 (CA-KER-02455)	1989	Prehistoric lithic scatter
15-002456 (CA-KER-02456)	1989	Prehistoric bedrock milling features
15-004037 (CA-KER-04027H)	1994	Historic-period can scatter, ca. 1930s-1940s
15-014889	2009	Frazier Community Park facility, ca. 1924-1925
15-018243	2014	Frazier Park Public Utility District Water Tank, ca. 1958
15-019536	2017	Historic-period refuse scatter, ca. 1920s-1940s
15-020579*	2019	SCE Frazier Park-Gorman 66kV Transmission Line, ca. 1962

* Records as lying partially across the APE

NATIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION

NAHC responded to CRM TECH's inquiry in a letter dated May 14, 2026, stating that the Sacred Lands File identified no Native American cultural resources within the APE but recommending further contacts with local Native American groups. For that purpose, NAHC provided a referral list of 13 individuals in the region, representing a total of seven tribal organizations (see App. 2). Upon receiving NAHC's reply, CRM TECH sent written requests for comments to all 13 individuals on the referral list on May 18, 2026, and follow-up telephone solicitations were carried out on June 1 and 4, 2026 (see App. 2).

As of this time, one tribal representative has responded in writing, and two others have provided their comments by telephone (see App. 2). Among them, Violet Walker, Chairperson of the Northern Chumash Tribal Council, noted via email that the tribe does not have any comments regarding this undertaking. Janet Hall, Cultural Resources Manager for the Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation, stated via telephone that the tribe would like to receive updates regarding the undertaking and recommended that other tribes be contacted for additional information. Eza Lopez, Cultural Resource Committee member at the Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians, stated via telephone that the location of the undertaking was in an area of concern for the tribe and that the tribe would therefore like to participate in government-to-government consultation with the lead agencies. He indicated that the tribe would send an email with details, but no further response has been received to date.

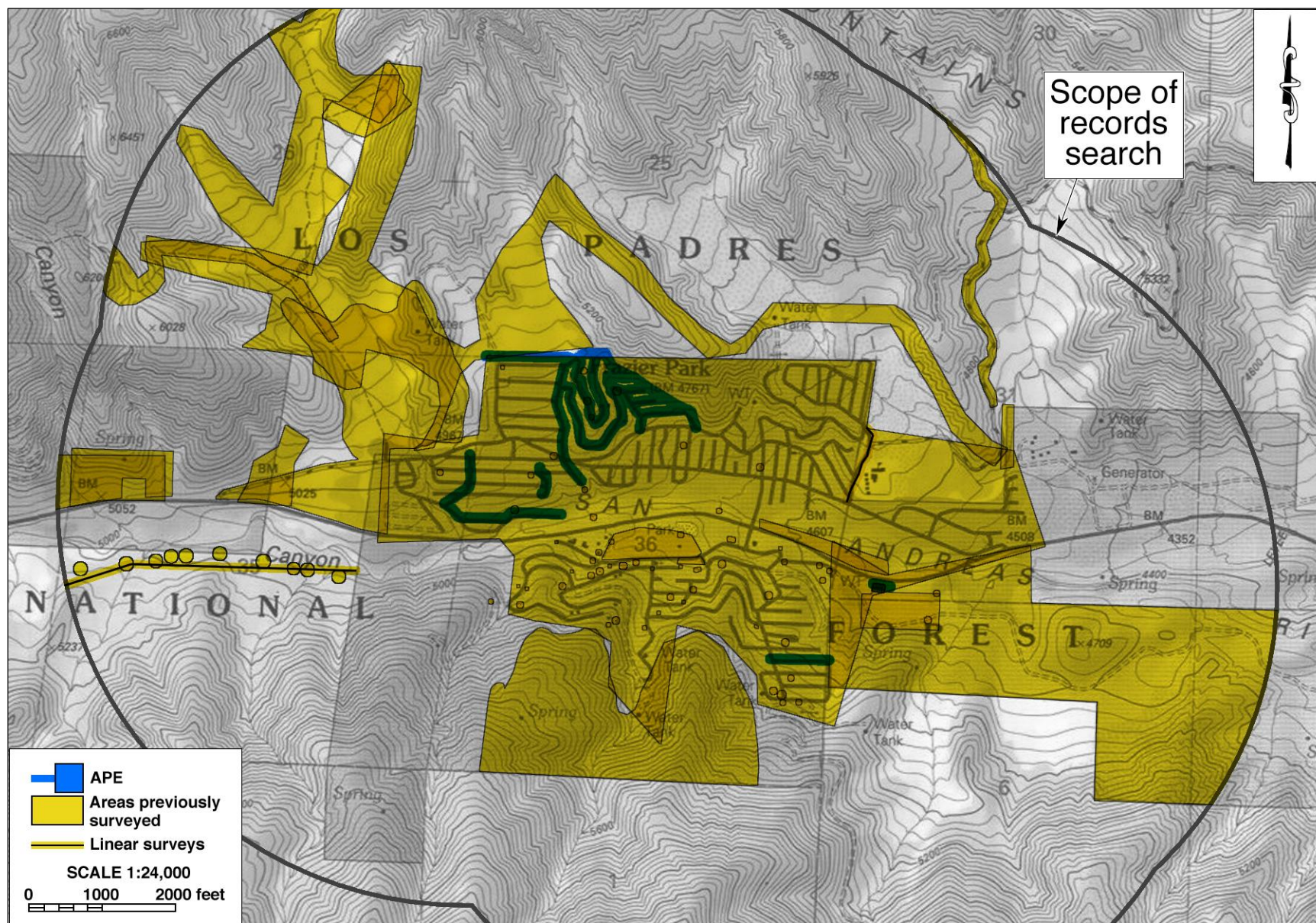


Figure 5. Previous study coverage in the vicinity of the APE, listed by SSJVIC file number.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Historical sources consulted for this study reflect the gradual development of the Frazier Park area during the first half of the 20th century, as discussed above (Figs. 6-9; NETR Online 1956). Prior to that, the most notable human-made feature in the vicinity was a road traversing generally east-west near the APE (Figs. 6, 7). The road would eventually evolve into present-day Mt. Pinos Way, which served as the main thoroughfare across this area until the completion of Frazier Mountain Park Road in the 1960s-1970s (Figs. 8, 9; NETR Online 1956-1974). Although what appear to have been a settler's house and fields were noted near the location of the proposed well site in the 1870s, little further settlement or development had occurred in the Frazier Park area until the 1920s (Figs. 6, 7; Kane 2017b).

By the early 1940s, in contrast, the community of Frazier Park had taken shape with a grid roads and clusters of buildings (Fig. 8). Many of the buildings and other features in or near the APE, therefore, can be expected to date to the early to mid-20th century. Since that time, suburban development in Frazier Park has grown and expanded continuously to the present time, but the overall character of the community and settlement pattern have remained largely unchanged (Figs. 8, 9; NETR Online 1956-2024; Google Earth 1994-2025).

GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Four different types of surface sediments have been identified within the APE by Dibblee (2006; Fig. 10). These sediment types include *Qa*, *Qf*, *Qoa*, and *ms*. Two of these are younger surficial

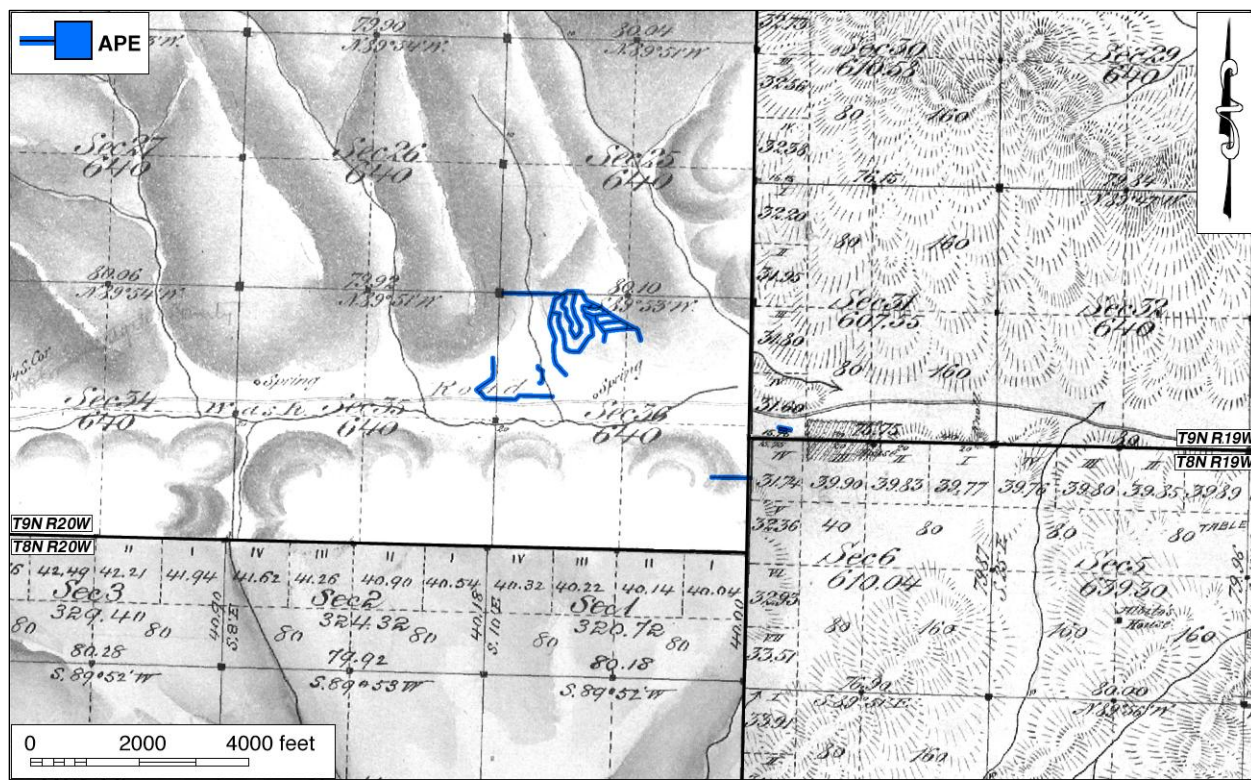


Figure 6. The APE and vicinity in 1874-1880. (Source: GLO 1880; 1881a; 1881b; 1881c)

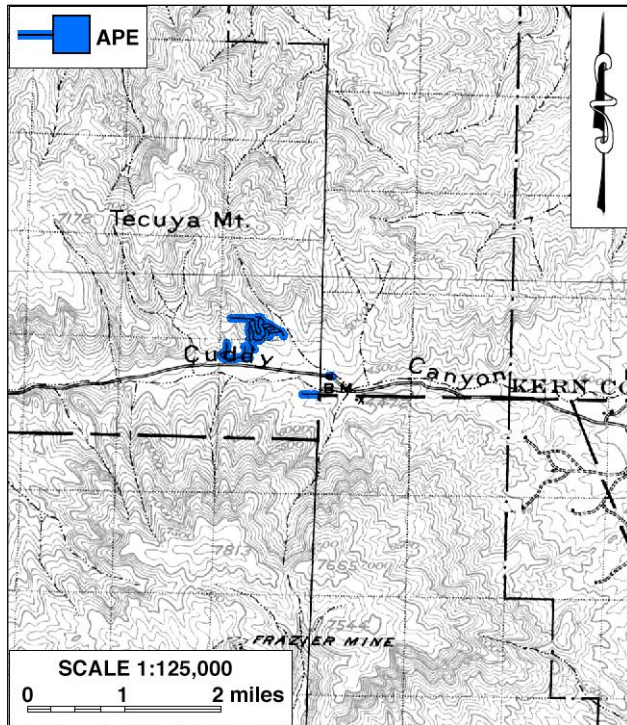


Figure 7. The APE and vicinity in 1900-1901. (Source: USGS 1903a; 1903b)

sediments from the Holocene Epoch, including *Qa* (alluvial gravel, sand, and clay of valley areas) and *Qf* (alluvial gravel, sand and clay of alluvial fans; *ibid.*). *Qoa* represents older dissected alluvial gravel and sand that dates to the Pleistocene Epoch, while *ms* represents Cretaceous-aged schist-phylite, described as dark gray, biotite mica, quartz and feldspar that is in part crystallized to gneiss (*ibid.*). Swanson and Olson (2016) map the sediments within the APE as modern alluvium (*Qa*) and modern alluvial fan deposits (*Qf*) of late Holocene age, older alluvium (*Qoa*) from the late to middle Pleistocene, and Lebec Granodiorite (*Kle*) that makes up part of the Pastoria Upper Plate and dates to the late Cretaceous.

Considering their relatively young age and alluvial origin, the subsurface sediments in most of the APE exhibit some potential to contain buried prehistoric cultural remains. However, geospatial analyses of known

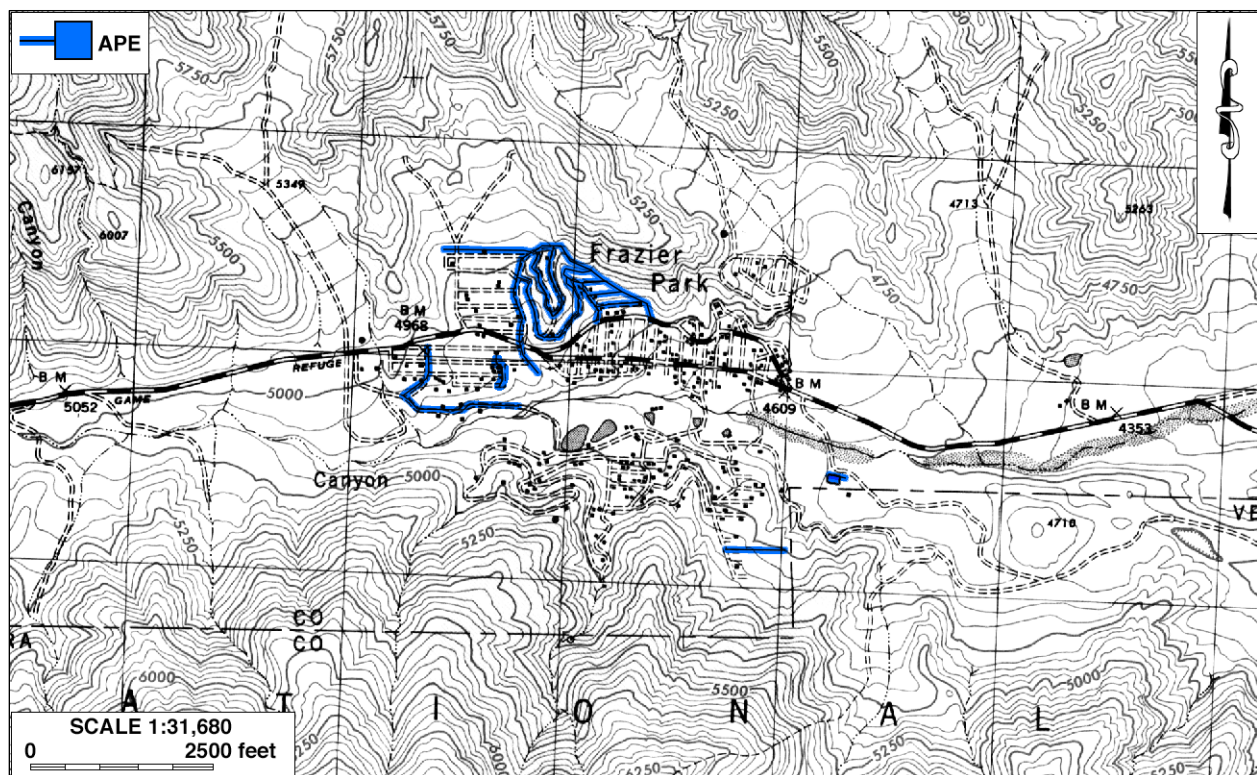


Figure 8. The APE and vicinity in 1942. (Source: USGS 1943)

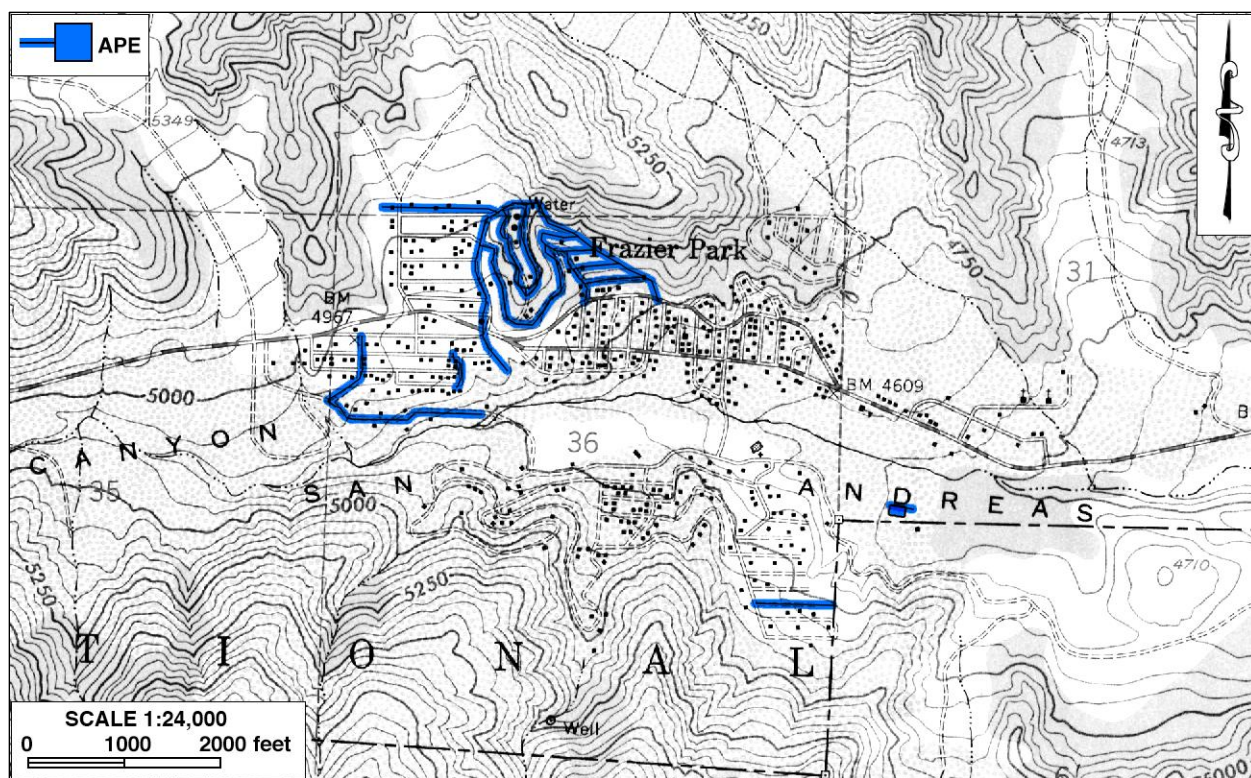


Figure 9. The APE and vicinity in 1942-1958. (Source: USGS 1958)

prehistoric sites in inland southern California suggest that long-term residential settlements of the Native population were more likely to occur in sheltered areas near the base of hills and/or on elevated terraces, hills, and finger ridges near permanent or reliable sources of water, while the level, unprotected valley floor was used mainly for resource procurement, travel, and occasional camping during these activities. This is corroborated by the ethnographic literature that identifies foothills as preferred settlement environment for Native Americans.

Located in a narrow valley along the seasonal Cuddy Creek, the APE was subject to occasional flooding but had no reliable water supply nearby. Based on the settlement pattern discussed above, the APE would not have provided a favorable setting for permanent or long-term habitation by the indigenous population during prehistoric times. Instead, the area was more likely used as a travel route and for opportunistic sustenance activities, where surviving cultural remains are typically limited to the ground surface and shallow deposits. The proposed undertaking will occur within soils that have been extensively disturbed by the installation of the existing water pipeline and other underground utility lines as well as nearby development and road construction. These soils, largely artificial fill, represent an unlikely setting for any prehistoric archaeological deposits to survive intact. As such, the subsurface sediments within the vertical extent of the APE appear relatively low in sensitivity for potentially significant archaeological remains of prehistoric origin.

FIELD SURVEY

Throughout the course of the field survey, no buildings, structures, objects, sites, features, or artifact deposits of potential historic significance were encountered within the APE. As mentioned above,

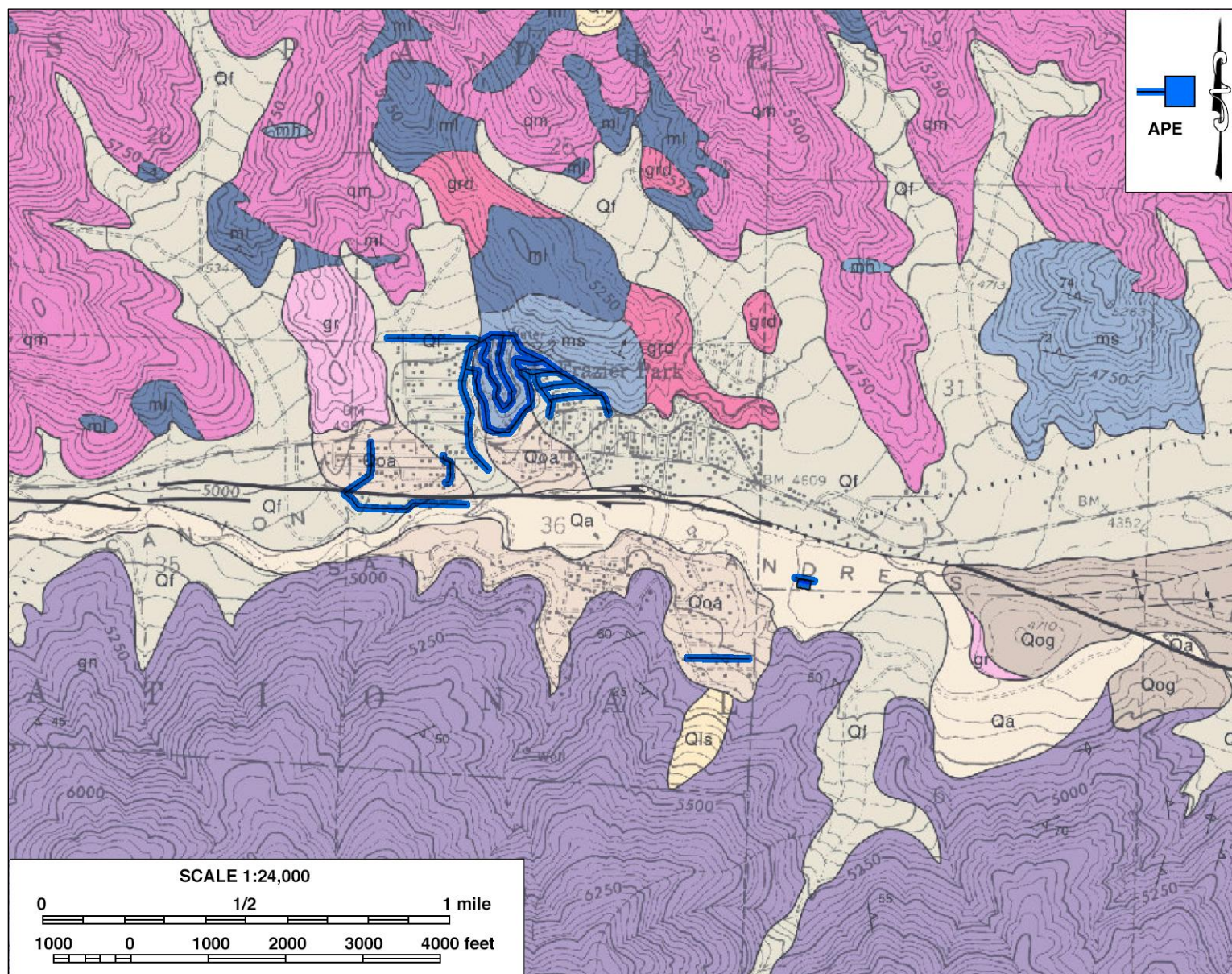


Figure 10. Geologic map of the APE and vicinity.

Site 15-020579, the 1962 Southern California Edison Frazier Park-Gorman 66kV Transmission Line, was previously recorded as lying across the APE at the intersection of Mead Trail and Alcot Trail and at the intersection of Elm Trail and Mt. Pinos Way. The field survey confirmed its presence in largely the same condition as described in 2019 (Fig. 11). However, the portions of the site across the APE consist solely of overhead powerlines, while the undertaking entails only subsurface trenching for pipeline replacement at these locations. Therefore, Site 15-020579 is considered to be outside the vertical extent of the APE.

Although many of the roadways containing the pipeline alignments date to the historic period, all of them have undergone repeated maintenance and upgrading during the modern era and, as a result, no longer exhibit any distinctively historical character. As working components of the modern transportation infrastructure, they are not considered potential “historic properties”/“historical resources” and require no further study under Section 106 or CEQA provisions on cultural resources.



Figure 11. Wooden power pole of the Frazier Park-Gorman 66kV Transmission Line at Mt. Pinos Way and Elm Trail (Site 15-020579), view to the south. (Photograph taken on May 19, 2026)

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

APPLICABLE STATUTORY/REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

Section 106 of the NHPA mandates that federal agencies take into account the effects of their undertakings on “historic properties” and seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on such properties (36 CFR 800.1(a)). Similarly, CEQA establishes that “a project 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” (PRC §21084.1). “Substantial adverse change,” according to PRC §5020.1(q), “means demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration such that the significance of an historical resource would be impaired.”

As defined by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, “historic properties” include “any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the Secretary of the Interior” (36 CFR 800.16(l)). The eligibility for inclusion in the National Register is determined by applying the following criteria, developed by the National Park Service as per provision of the National Historic Preservation Act:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and

- (a) that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- (b) that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- (c) that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- (d) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. (36 CFR 60.4)

For CEQA-compliance considerations, the State of California’s Public Resources Code (PRC) establishes the definitions and criteria for “historical resources,” which require similar protection to what NHPA Section 106 mandates for historic properties. “Historical resources,” according to PRC §5020.1(j), “includes, but is not limited to, any object, building, site, area, place, record, or manuscript which is historically or archaeologically significant, or is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California.”

More specifically, CEQA guidelines state that the term “historical resources” applies to any such resources listed in or determined to be eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, included in a local register of historical resources, or determined to be historically significant by the lead agency (Title 14 CCR §15064.5(a)(1)-(3)). Regarding the proper criteria of historical significance, CEQA guidelines mandate that “generally a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be ‘historically significant’ if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources” (Title 14 CCR §15064.5(a)(3)). A resource may be listed in the California Register if it meets any of the following criteria:

- (1) Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California’s history and cultural heritage.
- (2) Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past.
- (3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values.
- (4) Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. (PRC §5024.1(c))

DISCUSSION

As discussed above, the only potential “historic property”/“historical resource” identified in close proximity to the APE is Site 15-020579, the Southern California Edison Frazier Park-Gorman 66kV

Transmission Line from the early 1960s, which was previously determined not to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources when it was first recorded in 2019 (Urbana Preservation and Planning 2019:2). As such, it does not constitute a “historic property” or a “historical resource,” as defined above. Furthermore, the field survey demonstrates that the transmission line lies beyond the vertical extent of the APE.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the research results outlined above, this study concludes that no “historic properties” or “historical resources” are known to be present within the APE. Meanwhile, the subsurface sediments in the vertical APE appear to be relatively low in sensitivity for buried archaeological remains of prehistoric origin. In light of these findings, and pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1) and Calif. PRC §21084.1, CRM TECH presents the following recommendations to SWRCB:

- No “historic properties” or “historical resources” will be adversely affected by the proposed undertaking.
- No further cultural resources investigation will be necessary for the undertaking unless project plans undergo such changes as to include areas not covered by this study.
- If buried cultural materials are discovered during earth-moving operations associated with the undertaking, all work in the immediate area should be halted or diverted until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find.

REFERENCES

- Anderson, M. Kat
2005 *Tending the Wild: Native American Knowledge and the Management of California's Natural Resources*. University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles.
- Dibblee, Thomas W.
2006 Geologic Map of the Frazier Mountain and Lebec Quadrangles, Los Angeles, Ventura and Kern Counties, California. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Santa Barbara, California.
- Elsasser, Albert B., and Robert F. Heizer
1963 The Archaeology of Bower's Cave, Los Angeles County, California. *University of California Archaeological Survey Reports* 59:1-59. Berkeley.
- Galbraith, Steven
2001 Archaeological Reconnaissance Report HRR 0507-57:500, Kern County, California. On file, Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center, California State University, Bakersfield.
- Garfinkel, Alan P.
2015 Archaeological Background and Cultural Sequence for the San Joaquin Valley, Central California. On file, Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center, California State University, Bakersfield.
- Getchell, Barbie, and John E. Atwood
2009 Cultural Resources Report for the Kern River Valley Specific Plan Area, Kern County, California. On file, Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center, California State University, Bakersfield.

- GLO (General Land Office, U.S. Department of the Interior)
- 1880 Plat Map: Township No. 8 North Range No. 20 West, SBBM; surveyed in 1874-1879.
 - 1881a Plat Map: Township No. 8 North Range No. 19 West, SBBM; surveyed in 1873-1879.
 - 1881b Plat Map: Township No. 9 North Range No. 19 West, SBBM; surveyed in 1880.
 - 1881c Plat Map: Township No. 9 North Range No. 20 West, SBBM; surveyed in 1880.
- Google Earth
- 1994-2025 Aerial/satellite photographs of the project vicinity; taken in 1994, 2002-2009, 2013-2015, 2017-2021, 2023, and 2025. Available through the Google Earth software.
- Grant, Campbell
- 1978a Chumash: Introduction. In Robert F. Heizer (ed.): *Handbook of North American Indians*, Vol. 8: *California*; pp. 505-508. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
 - 1978b Eastern Coastal Chumash. In Robert F. Heizer (ed.): *Handbook of North American Indians*, Vol. 8: *California*; pp. 509-519. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
- Hall, Clarence A.
- 2007 *Introduction to the Geology of Southern California and Its Plants*. University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles.
- Kane, Bonnie Ketterl
- 2017a Welcome to Lake of the Woods: A Brief Overview of Lake of the Wood's History. Ridge Route Communities Museum and Historical Society. <http://ridgeroutemuseum.org/welcome-to-lake-of-the-woods/>.
 - 2017b Welcome to Frazier Park: A Brief Overview of the History of Frazier Park. Ridge Route Communities Museum and Historical Society. <https://ridgeroutemuseum.org/welcome-to-frazier-park/>.
- Kern Valley Museum
- n.d. Museum Exhibits: Gold Mining, Farming/Ranching, Lumbering, and Western Movies. <http://www.kernvalleymuseum.org/museum-exhibits>.
- King, Chester
- 1981 The Evolution of Chumash Society: A Comparative Study of Artifacts Used in Social System Maintenance in the Santa Barbara Channel Region before A.D. 1804. Ph.D. dissertation, University of California, Davis.
- King, Chester, and Thomas C. Blackburn
- 1978 Tataviam. In Robert F. Heizer (ed.): *Handbook of North American Indians*, Vol. 8: *California*; pp. 535-537. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
- Kroeber, Alfred L.
- 1925 *Handbook of the Indians of California*. Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 78. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
- Macko, Michael E., Jeanne D. Binning, David D. Earle, and Paul E. Langenwaller
- 1993 National Register Eligibility Determinations for Historic Resources along the Proposed AT&T Lightguide System, Victorville to Bakersfield, California. On file, Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center, California State University, Bakersfield.
- McGuire, K.R., and Alan P. Garfinkel
- 1980 Archaeological Investigations in the Southern Sierra Nevada: The Bear Mountain Segment of the Pacific Coast Trail. U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Bakersfield District, Bakersfield.

McKenna, Jeanette A.

- 2004 A Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for the Proposed Domestic Water Rehabilitation Project, Frazier Park, Kern County, California. On file, Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center, California State University, Bakersfield

Moratto, Michael

- 1984 *California Archaeology*. Academic Press, Orlando, Florida.

NETR (Nationwide Environmental Title Research) Online

- 1956-2024 Aerial/satellite photographs of the project vicinity; taken in 1956, 1959, 1961, 1974, 1985, 1994, 2002, 2005, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2022, and 2024.
<https://historicaerials.com>.

Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians

- 2018 Santa Ynez Reservation. <http://www.santaynezchumash.org/reservation.html>.

Schiffman, Robert A.

- 1987 Archaeological Investigation for Lands Near Frazier Park, Kern County, California. On file, Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center, California State University, Bakersfield.
1998 Archaeological Investigation for Precise Development Plan No. 1, Map No. 254, Kern County, California. On file, Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center, California State University, Bakersfield.

Schmidt, James J.

- 1999 SCE Tenneco Phase II, Kern County, California. On file, Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center, California State University, Bakersfield.

Schmidt, James J., and June A. Schmidt

- 2009 California Historical Resources Inventory record form, 15-014889. On file, Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center, California State University, Bakersfield.

Southern Sierra Properties

- n.d. The Kern River Valley: Colorful Valley History. <http://www.southern-sierra.com/Community/history.html>.

Swanson, Brian J., and Brian P.E. Olson

- 2016 Preliminary Geologic Map of the Frazier Mountain 7.5' Quadrangle, Kern, Los Angeles, and Ventura Counties, California. California Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey.

Troxel, Bennie W., and Paul K. Morton

- 1962 *Mines and Mineral Resources of Kern County, California*. California Division of Mines and Geology County Report 1. San Francisco.

Urbana Preservation and Planning, LLC

- 2019 California Historical Resources Inventory record form, 15-020579. On file, Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center, California State University, Bakersfield.

USGS (United States Geological Survey, U.S. Department of the Interior)

- 1903a Map: Mt. Pinos, Calif. (30', 1:125,000); surveyed in 1901.
1903b Map: Tejon, Calif. (30', 1:125,000); surveyed in 1900-1901.
1943 Map: Frazier Mountain, Calif. (1:31,680); surveyed in 1942.
1958 Map: Frazier Mountain, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); aerial photographs taken in 1942, field-checked in 1943, culture revised in 1958.
1975 Map: Los Angeles, Calif. (120'x60', 1:250,000); aerial photographs taken in 1972.
1996 Map: Frazier Mountain, Calif. (7.5', 1:24,000); imagery taken in 1995.

APPENDIX 1 PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR, HISTORY/ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY Bai “Tom” Tang, M.A.

Education

- 1988-1993 Graduate Program in Public History/Historic Preservation, UC Riverside.
1987 M.A., American History, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.
1982 B.A., History, Northwestern University, Xi’an, China.
- 2000 “Introduction to Section 106 Review,” presented by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the University of Nevada, Reno.
1994 “Assessing the Significance of Historic Archaeological Sites,” presented by the Historic Preservation Program, University of Nevada, Reno.

Professional Experience

- 2002- Principal Investigator, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
1993-2002 Project Historian/Architectural Historian, CRM TECH, Riverside, California.
1993-1997 Project Historian, Greenwood and Associates, Pacific Palisades, California.
1991-1993 Project Historian, Archaeological Research Unit, UC Riverside.
1990 Intern Researcher, California State Office of Historic Preservation, Sacramento.
1990-1992 Teaching Assistant, History of Modern World, UC Riverside.
1988-1993 Research Assistant, American Social History, UC Riverside.
1985-1988 Research Assistant, Modern Chinese History, Yale University.
1985-1986 Teaching Assistant, Modern Chinese History, Yale University.
1982-1985 Lecturer, History, Xi’an Foreign Languages Institute, Xi’an, China.

Cultural Resources Management Reports

Preliminary Analyses and Recommendations Regarding California’s Cultural Resources Inventory System (with Special Reference to Condition 14 of NPS 1990 Program Review Report). California State Office of Historic Preservation working paper, Sacramento, September 1990.

Numerous cultural resources management reports with the Archaeological Research Unit, Greenwood and Associates, and CRM TECH, since October 1991.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR, ARCHAEOLOGY
Daniel Ballester, M.S., RPA (Registered Professional Archaeologist)

Education

- 2013 M.S., Geographic Information System (GIS), University of Redlands, California.
- 1998 B.A., Anthropology, California State University, San Bernardino.
- 1997 Archaeological Field School, University of Las Vegas and University of California, Riverside.
- 1994 University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.

- 2021 An Introduction to Geoarchaeology: How Understanding Basic Soils, Sediments, and Landforms Can Make You a Better Archaeologist; Society for American Archaeology online seminar.
- 2007 Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), California State University, San Bernardino.
- 2002 Historic Archaeology Workshop; presented by Richard Norwood, Base Archaeologist, Edwards Air Force Base, at CRM TECH, Riverside, California.

Professional Experience

- 2025- Principal Investigator, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
- 2002-2024 Field Director/GIS Specialist, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.
- 2011-2012 GIS Specialist for Caltrans District 8 Project, Garcia and Associates, San Anselmo, California.
- 2009-2010 Field Crew Chief, Garcia and Associates, San Anselmo, California.
- 2009-2010 Field Crew, ECorp, Redlands.
- 1999-2002 Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Riverside, California.
- 1998-1999 Field Crew, K.E.A. Environmental, San Diego, California.
- 1998 Field Crew, A.S.M. Affiliates, Encinitas, California.
- 1998 Field Crew, Archaeological Research Unit, University of California, Riverside.

Cultural Resources Management Reports

Field Director, co-author, and contributor to numerous cultural management reports since 2002.

Memberships

Society for American Archaeology; Society for California Archaeology.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/REPORT WRITER
Elizabeth L. Beckner, Ph.D.

Education

2024 Ph.D., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside.
2017 M.A., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside.
2016 B.A., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside.
2014 A.A., Anthropology, Chaffey College, Rancho Cucamonga, California.

Professional Experience

2025- Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Colton, California.
2025 Lecturer, California State University, San Bernardino.
2019- Adjunct Instructor, Chaffey College, Rancho Cucamonga, California.
2019 Archaeologist, Dudek, Pasadena, California
2017-2019 Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside.
2018 Archaeologist, Proyecto Sacbé Cobá-Yaxuna (Sacbé Cobá-Yaxuna Project), Cobá, Quintana Roo, Mexico.
2016-2017 Field Assistant, Proyecto de Interacción Política del Centro de Yucatán (Political Interaction Project of Central Yucatan), Yaxuna, Yucatan, Mexico.
2015-2017 Information Officer, Eastern Information Center, Riverside, California.

Publication

2023 T.W. Stanton, Traci Ardren, Nicolas C. Barth, Juan C. Fernandez Diaz, Steph J. Miller, Karl A. Taube, Patrick Rohrer, Elizabeth Beckner, and Aline Magnoni: Roads, Temples, and the Community Boundaries of Cobá, Quintana Roo. In T.H. Guderjan and J.P. Mathews (eds.): *Construction of Maya Space: Causeways, Walls, and Open Areas from Ancient to Modern Times*; pp. 71-98. University of Arizona Press, Tucson.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CREW CHIEF
Melissa A. Portilla, B.A.

Education

2023 A.A. (*cum laude*), Anthropology, Fullerton College.
2019 B.A., Ancient History: Classics, University of Hawaii, Manoa.

Professional Experience

2026- Archaeological Crew Chief, CRM TECH, Colton, California.
2023-2026 Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Colton, California.
2023-2024 Project Archaeologist, Psomas, Pasadena, California.
2020 Collections Assistant, Museum of Us, San Diego, California.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/NATIVE AMERICAN LIAISON
Nina Gallardo, B.A.

Education

2004 B.A., Anthropology/Law and Society, University of California, Riverside.

Professional Experience

2004- Project Archaeologist, CRM TECH, Riverside/Colton, California.

Honors and Awards

2000-2002 Dean's Honors List, University of California, Riverside.

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST/NATIVE AMERICAN LIAISON
Eulices Lopez, B.S.

Education

2015 B.S., Anthropology, University of California, Riverside.

2013 A.A., Anthropology, East Los Angeles College, Monterey Park, California.

Professional Experience

2024- Project Archaeologist/Native American Liaison, CRM TECH, Colton, California.

2017-2024 Deputy Coordinator, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

2017-2024 Director Assistant, Archaeological Research Unit, University of California, Riverside.

2017-2024 Curator Facilitator, Archaeological Curation Unit, University of California, Riverside.

2014-2015 Information Officer, Eastern Information Center, University of California, Riverside.

2013 Lithic Analyst Assistant, Anthropology Department, East Los Angeles College,
Monterey Park, California.

2012 Hominid Cast Fossils Cataloger, Anthropology Department, East Los Angeles
College, Monterey Park, California.

APPENDIX 2

**CORRESPONDENCE WITH
NATIVE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES**

SACRED LANDS FILE & NATIVE AMERICAN CONTACTS LIST REQUEST

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

1550 Harbor Boulevard, Suite 100
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916)373-3710
(916)373-5471 (Fax)
nahc@nahc.ca.gov

Project: New Potable Water Well and Pipeline Replacement Projects (CRM TECH No. 4397)

County: Kern

USGS Quadrangle Name: Frazier Mountain, Calif.

Township 9 North **Range** 19-20 West SB BM; **Section(s)** 31, 35 & 36

Company/Firm/Agency: CRM TECH

Contact Person: Nina Gallardo

Street Address: 1016 E. Cooley Drive, Suite A/B

City: Colton, CA **Zip:** 92324

Phone: (909) 824-6400 **Fax:** (909) 824-6405

Email: ngallardo@crmtech.us

Project Description: The project entails the construction of a new well on approximately .24 acer located south of Frazier Mountain Park Road, west of this road's intersection with Mt. Pinos Way, and the replacement of approximately 18,300 linear feet of pipelines in the community of Frazier Park, Kern County, California.

May 14, 2026



CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki

SECRETARY
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

COMMISSIONER
Bennae Calac
Pauma-Yuima Band of
Luiseño Indians

COMMISSIONER
Vacant

COMMISSIONER
Vacant

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Andrew Alejandro
Paskenta Band of
Nomlaki Indians

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

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Gavin Newsom, Governor

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

May 14, 2026

Nina Gallardo
CRM Tech

Via Email to: ngallardo@crmtech.us

Re: New Potable Water Well and Pipeline Replacement (CRM TECH No. 4397) Project, Kern County

To Whom It May Concern:

As requested, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed based on information submitted for the above referenced project. The results were negative. Be aware that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the SLF, nor are they required to do so. As such, an SLF search is not a substitute for consultation with all tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with a project's geographic area.

Attached is a list of Native American tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project's geographic area. Please contact all of the listed tribes as they may have information about sacred sites within the project area that is not listed with the NAHC.

If within two weeks of notification, a response has not been received, the Commission requests that you follow up with a telephone call or email to ensure that the project information was received.

If you receive notification of a change of address or phone number from a tribe, please inform the NAHC so that we can assure that our lists contain current information.

In addition to engaging in tribal consultation, you should consult the appropriate regional California Historical Research Information System (CHRIS) information center to determine whether it has information regarding the presence of recorded archaeological sites within the project area.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at Mathew.lin@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Mathew Lin

Mathew Lin, MPP
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

**Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Kern County
5/14/2026**

Tribe Name	Fed (F) Non-Fed (N)	Contact Person	Contact Address	Phone #	Fax #	Email Address	Cultural Affiliation	Counties
Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians	N	Cultural Resource Committee,	P.O. Box 364 Ojai, CA, 93024	(805) 746-6685		CR@bvbmi.com	Chumash	Kern, Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation	N	Mati Waiya, Tribal Chair	16500 S Mountain Drive Santa Paula, CA, 93060	(805) 794-1248		tribalchair@coastalband.org	Chumash	Kern, Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation	N	Michael Khuz-Zarate, CBCN Vice Chairman	5151 W Vartikian Ave. Fresno, CA, 93722	(559) 761-9827		mkhus70@gmail.com	Chumash	Kern, Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation	N	Janet Hall, CBCN Cultural Resources Manager	1529 West Lemon Ave. Lompoc, CA, 93436	(805) 451-8757		tasinhall@yahoo.com	Chumash	Kern, Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Lena Broderick, Executive Assistant to Tribal Chairman	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5110		lbroderick@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Charles Martin, MBMI Chairman	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5110		chairman@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Bernadette Ann Brierty, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 663-2842		abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura
Northern Chumash Tribal Council	N	Violet Walker, Chairperson	P.O. Box 6533 Los Osos, CA, 93412	(760) 549-3532		violetsagewalker@gmail.com	Chumash	Kern, Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura
San Fernando Band of Mission Indians	N	Donna Yocum, Chairperson	P.O. Box 221838 Newhall, CA, 91322	(503) 539-0933	(503) 574-3308	dyocum@sfbmi.org	Kitanemuk Vanyume Tataviam	Kern, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Ventura
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians	F	Amanda Dobrov, Cultural Resources Archeologist	PO Box 517 Santa Ynez, CA, 93460	(805) 894-3730		adobrov@chumash.gov	Chumash	Kern, Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians	F	Nakia Zavalla, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PO Box 517 Santa Ynez, CA, 93460	(805) 688-7997		nzavalla@chumash.gov	Chumash	Kern, Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians	F	CRM Consultation	PO Box 517 Santa Ynez, CA, 93460	(805) 688-7997		CRMConsultation@chumash.gov	Chumash	Kern, Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura
Tejon Indian Tribe	F	Curtis Alcantar, Cultural and Natural Resource Manager	4941 David Road Bakersfield, CA, 93307	(661) 699-5138		calcantar@tejonindiantribe-nsn.gov	Kitanemuk	Kern
Tejon Indian Tribe	F	Candice Garza, CRM Scheduler	4941 David Road Bakersfield, CA, 93307	(661) 345-0632		cgarza@tejonindiantribe-nsn.gov	Kitanemuk	Kern

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 regard to cultural resources assessment for the proposed New Potable Water Well and Pipeline Replacement (CRM TECH No. 4397) Project, Kern County.

Record: PROJ-2026-002619
Report Type: List of Tribes
Counties: Kern
NAHC Group: All



May 18, 2026

RE: New Potable Water Well
And Pipeline Replacement Project
Community of Frazier Park
Kern County, California
CRM TECH Contract #4397

Dear Tribal Representative:

I am writing to bring your attention to an ongoing Section 106-compliance and CEQA-Plus-compliance study for the proposed project reference above. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking entails the construction of a new well on approximately 0.24-acre of land located south of Frazier Mountain Park Road, west of this road's intersection with Mt. Pinos Way, and the Proposed replacement pipeline is located on approximately 18,300 linear feet within the Community of Frazier Park, Kern County, California. The accompanying map, based on the USGS Frazier Mountain, Calif., 7.5' quadrangle, depicts the location of the APE within Sections 31, 35, and 36, T9N R19-20W, SBBM.

The Native American Heritage Commission reports in a letter dated May 14, 2026, that Sacred Lands File search was **negative** for tribal cultural resources in the vicinity but recommends contacting local Native American groups for any additional information (see attached). Therefore, as part of the cultural resources study for this project, I am writing to request your input on potential Native American cultural resources in or near the APE, and/or any other information to consider during the cultural resources investigations. Any information or concerns may be forwarded to CRM TECH by telephone, e-mail, facsimile, or standard mail. Requests for documentation or information we cannot provide will be forwarded to our client and/or the lead agencies for the project, namely the Frazier Park Public Utilities District and SWRCB.

We would also like to clarify that, as the cultural resources consultant for the project, CRM TECH is not involved in the AB 52-compliance process or in government-to-government consultations. The purpose of this letter is to seek any information that you may have to help us determine if there are cultural resources within and/or near the APE area that we should be aware of and to help us assess the sensitivity of the APE. Thank you for your time and effort in addressing this important matter.

Respectfully,



Nina Gallardo
Project Archaeologist/Native American Liaison
Email: ngallardo@crmttech.us
Encl.: NAHC response letter and project location map

Phone: 909 824 6400 Fax: 909 824 6405

From: violetsagewalker <violetsagewalker@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, June 1, 2026 9:13 PM

To: elopez@crmtech.us

Subject: RE: FW: NA Scoping Letter for the New Potable Water Well and Pipeline Replacement Projects in the Community of Frazier Park, Kern County (CRM TECH #4397)

Thank you. We don't have any comments about it its a little far for us.

Regards

Sent from my Galaxy

TELEPHONE LOG

Name	Tribe/Affiliation	Telephone Contacts	Note
Eza Lopez, Cultural Resource Committee	Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians	10:54 am, June 1, 2026 10:11 am, June 4, 2026	Mr. Lopez stated that the project was in an area of concern for the tribe and that the tribe would like to participate in government-to-government consultation with the lead agencies. He indicated that the tribe would send an email with details, but no further response has been received to date. A voice message was left during a follow-up telephone call.
Janet Hall, CBCN Cultural Resources Manager	Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation	10:56 am, June 1, 2026	Ms. Hall stated that the tribe would like to receive updates on this project. She also recommended contacting other local tribes for additional information.
Bernadette Ann Brierty, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Morongo Band of Mission Indians	10:58 am, June 1, 2026 10:14 am, June 4, 2026	Left voice messages; no response to date.
Violet Walker, Chairperson	Northern Chumash Tribal Council	10:59 am, June 1, 2026	Ms. Walker responded by email on June 1, 2026 (copy attached).
Dona Yocum, Chairperson	San Fernando Band of Mission Indians	11:01 am, June 1, 2026 10:16 am, June 4, 2026	Left voice messages; no response to date.
Amanda Dobrov, Cultural Resource Archaeologist	Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians	11:03 am, June 1, 2026 10:18 am, June 4, 2026	Left voice messages; no response to date.
Candice Garza, CRM Scheduler	Tejon Indian Tribe	11:06 am, June 1, 2026 10:20 am, June 4, 2026	Left voice messages; no response to date.