An Archaeological Survey Report for the
Point of Rocks VMP
Riverside County, California

by:

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November 14, 2005

Part 1: Project Information

Project Number: RX-South-045-RRU
Name of CAL FIRE Project Manager: Ken Mello
Project Size (acres): 120 acres
Name of 7.5' USGS Quad Map: San Jacinto Peak
Name of Landowner: State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation
Legal Location: Sec. 7, T4S, R3E SBBM
Funding Information: State
Project Description: Hand cut brush. Chip, remove, and/or pile burn debris.

Part 2: Archaeological Records Check Information

Date of Records Check Conducted by Information Center: September 14, 2005
Information Center File Number: RS# 3508
Summary of Records Check Results: The records check response stated that three surveys were
within 1/16 mile of the project, including one very minute area which was within a portion of the
project area. The response incorrectly stated that no cultural resource properties are recorded within
the boundaries of the project area, but the map provided by them shows six sites within the project.
The site records provided were produced for the St. San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness
Resource Inventory, so it is assumed that there is additional survey work completed, but not found
in the Information Center records. A phone call to the IC on Oct. 2, 2005 confirmed that they did
not have a copy of the DPR report.

(X) Records Check Request, Map, and written reply from the Information Center are attached

Part 3: Native American Consultation Information

(X) Example of a notification letter(s) (including maps) is attached
List of Native American individuals or groups that were provided written notification:
Native American Heritage Commission
915 Capitol Mall, Room #364
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attn: Rob Wood
(916) 653-4040 / (916) 657-5390 Fax

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians*
Richard Milanovich, Chairperson
600 Tahquitz Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262
Tribal Affiliation: Cahuilla
(760) 325-3400 / (760) 325-0593 Fax

Augustine Band of Mission Indians*
Maryann Martin, Chairperson
P.O. Box 846
Coachella, CA 92236
Tribal Affiliation: Cahuilla
(760) 398-4722

Augustine Band of Mission Indians*
Karin Kupcha, Tribal Administrator
P.O. Box 1291
Yucca Valley, CA 92286
Tribal Affiliation: Cahuilla
(760) 365-1373 / (760) 365-2664 Fax

Cabazon Band of Mission Indians*
John A. James, Chairperson
Juddy Stapp, Director of Cultural Affairs
Bill Anderson, Environmental Manager
84-245 Indio Springs Parkway
Indio, CA 92203-3499
Tribal Affiliation: Cahuilla
(760) 342-2593 / (760) 347-7880

Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians*
Germone Salgado, Chairperson
Anthony Madrigal, Jr., Environmental Coordinator
P.O. Box 391760
Anza, CA 92539
Tribal Affiliation: Cahuilla
(909) 763-5549 / (909) 763-2808 Fax

Morongo Band of Mission Indians*
Maurice Lyons, Chairperson
11581 Potrero Road
Banning, CA 92220
Tribal Affiliation: Cahuilla
(909) 849-4697 / (909) 849-4425 Fax

Morongo Band of Mission Indians*
Britt W. Wilson, Cultural Resource Coordinator
245 N. Murray Street, Suite C
Banning, CA 92220
(909) 849-8807 / (909) 922-8146 Fax
Email: britt_wilson@morongo.org

Ramona Band of Mission Indians*
Manuel Hamilton, Chairperson
Anthony Largo, Environmental Coordinator
P.O. Box 391670
Anza, CA 92539
Tribal Affiliation: Cahuilla
(909) 763-4105 / (909) 763-4325
Email: romona41@gte.net

Ramona Band of Mission Indians*
Karin Kupcha, Tribal Administrator
P.O. Box 1291
Yucca Valley, CA 92286
Tribal Affiliation: Cahuilla
(760) 365-1373 / (760) 365-2664 Fax

Soboba Band of Mission Indians*
Robert J. Salgado, Sr., Chairperson
P.O. Box 487
San Jacinto, CA 92581
Tribal Affiliation: Luiseno
(909) 654-2765 / (909) 654-4198 Fax

Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians*
Ray Torres, Sr., Chairperson
Laura Hopkins, Tribal Administrator
Gary Revalos, Cultural Resources Coordinator
Roberto Ramirez, Environmental Coordinator
P.O. Box 1160
Temal, CA 92274
Tribal Affiliation: Cahuilla
(760) 397-0300 / (760) 397-8146

**Date of the CAL FIRE Native American Contact List that was used:** October 2005
**Date notification was sent:** Oct. 5, 2005
**Results of Information Request:**
( ) No reply received as of (date):
(X) Written reply received (copy attached)
( ) Verbal reply received (summarize reply below):
( ) Native American archaeological or cultural sites were not identified within the project area

*Point of Rocks VMP*
Native American archaeological or cultural sites have been identified within the project area.

Date Notification Letters were sent to Native Americans: October 24, 2005

Date copies of notification letters sent to the Director: Sample attached.

Results of Notification to Native Americans:
(✓) No reply received as of (date): November 14, 2005
()
() Written reply received (copy attached)
() Verbal reply received (summarize reply below):

Part 4: Pre-Field Research

Literature Reviewed:

Bean, L. J.

Bean, L. J. and L. Bourgeault

Bean, L. J., S. Brakke Vane, and J. Young

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)
1935 Summary Report, Fifth Period, April 1 – September 30. On file at California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), Southern Service Center (SSC), 8885 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 270, San Diego, California, 92108.

Kroeber, A. L.

Mealey, Marla

Robinson, J. and B. Risher
1993 The San Jacintos. Big Santa Anita Historical Society, Arcadia, California.

Wallace, W.

Persons Contacted:
Larrynn Carver, State Parks Archaeologist, Marla Mealey, State Parks Archaeologist.

Summary of Results of Pre-Field Research: Larrynn Carver stated that 10-20% of the park had been surveyed but that she didn't have a coverage map depicting which areas had previously been surveyed. She had me contact Marla Mealey, who said that the area within our project had previously been surveyed during her 1999 survey. Marla also provided a copy of their archaeological survey coverage map and a copy of the 1999 survey report.
Southern California's earliest inhabitants migrated into the areas surrounding the San Jacinto Mountains over 9,000 years ago. These early peoples have been classified as hunters with an artifact assemblage that included leaf-shaped or fluted projectile points, crescents, choppers, hammers, flake scrapers, and a scarcity of groundstone or seed processing tools. Sometime around 8,000 years ago, groundstone tools begin to appear in the artifact assemblages along the southern California coast. The change to a more diversified subsistence strategy (hunting, fishing, and gathering) occurred around 5,000 years ago. This also marks the beginning of a period of increased rainfall in the deserts (making them more inhabitable), increases in population, and also the beginning of specialized and selective exploitation of particular environments.

In the southern California deserts, the rise and fall of Lake Cahuilla helped to dictate settlement patterns and availability of resources. Lake Cahuilla (Blake Sea) was a freshwater lake, created during interglacial epochs when high water flows from distributary drainages of the Colorado River filled the low-lying Salton Sink. At its maximum extent, Lake Cahuilla was about 100 miles long and 35 miles wide. The earliest lakebed sediments have been dated at nearly 40,000 years old, however, more recent lake episodes occurred throughout the last few thousand years, with the most recent drying up approximately 400 years ago. When the lake dried up and resources became scarce, people may have had to travel into the foothills and mountains to obtain food, medicinal plants, and other materials.

Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness (Mount San Jacinto State Park) fall within the ethnographic territory of the Cahuilla, whose ancestors entered this region of southern California approximately 3,000 years ago. The Cahuilla have been divided by ethnographers and linguists into three groups: the Mountain Cahuilla, the Desert Cahuilla, and the Western or Pass Cahuilla. The Cahuilla range once covered much of Riverside County and parts of San Bernardino, San Diego, and Imperial Counties.

The Cahuilla territory included a topographically and environmentally varied terrain, ranging from forested mountains over 10,800 feet in elevation to arid desert sinks 270 feet below sea level. The Cahuilla were hunters and gatherers, living in permanent villages, but traveling into other portions of their territory to take advantage of various resources. They also practiced limited horticultural/agricultural techniques including burning (for both hunting and plant food management purposes), pruning, irrigating, fallow- ing, transplanting, and planting. The high mountain area that includes San Jacinto Peak was primarily used for hunting deer and gathering various plants.

Trade was also an important means of obtaining resources, raw materials, and manufactured items including jewelry, baskets, and ritual equipment. Trade allowed the Cahuilla to obtain resources that were not abundant or were unavailable within their territory. The Cocopa-Maricopa Trail, a major trade route, bisected the Cahuilla territory and linked the interior deserts with the coast. Cahuilla traders traveled as far west as Santa Catalina and east to the Gila River to obtain goods. Olivella or clamshell beads were used for ornaments as well as for money.

Aside from the important food staples such as acorns (Quercus spp.), pine seeds (Pinus spp.), manzanita (Arctostaphylos spp.), and agave (Agave sp.), many other important floral resources used by the Cahuilla are found in Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness. Some of these plants include: gooseberries and currants (Ribes spp.), raspberries and thimbleberries (Rubus
spp.), blue elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*), Mormon tea (*Ephedra* spp.), buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), sage (*Salvia* sp.), juniper (*Juniperus californica*), incense cedar (*Calocedrus decurrens*), willow (*Salix* spp.), Mohave yucca (*Yucca schidigera*), and various other herbs and grasses. These and other locally available plants were used for food, medicine, ceremony, construction, and/or manufactured items. Cahuilla women used seed beaters; baskets; net bags; digging sticks; manos and metates; mortars and pestles; pottery bowls, pots, and jars; and various wood, fiber, stone, shell, and bone utensils for collecting, processing, cooking, and storing vegetal foods and materials.

Terrestrial hunting was typically done with bow and arrow, throwing stick, net, snare, or traps. Brush burning to scare up and drive game was also used. The bow was typically made of mesquite, willow, or palm-leaf stem with a mescal fiber or sinew string, and the arrow was either cane with a wooden foreshaft and stone or wooden points, or a single sharpened stem of sagebrush or arrowweed. Mule deer, bighorn sheep, and pronghorns were the most important big game animals in the Cahuilla territory; but rodents, reptiles, birds, fish, insects, and worms were also caught for food.

Houses were typically pole-and-thatched construction and could either be circular and domed or rectangular. Cone-shaped structures made with cedar bark were built for temporary shelter in the mountains, and cedar slabs were sometimes used to construct the walls of more permanent structures. Other buildings in villages included the ceremonial house, men's sweathouse, and several granaries. Sweatshouses were small, semisubterranean, and oval-shaped, with a ground-level door. The Cahuilla also built shade ramadas.

There were many places that the Cahuilla considered to be sacred, including mountains, springs, rock outcroppings, or other natural formations. San Jacinto Peak, Hidden Lake, and other places within Mount San Jacinto State Park were held sacred by the Cahuilla.

Historic:
Acquired in February 1933, during the height of the Great Depression, Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness is one of the oldest and largest recreational areas administered by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). Many of the 12,600-acre park improvements, designed by National Park Service (NPS) specialists, and constructed by Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) crews, such as trails, bridges, campgrounds, wilderness shelters, and administration buildings are still in use today.

Part 5: Training and Experience of Archaeological Surveyors

Name of current Archaeological Surveyor(s):
Linda Pollack, CAL FIRE Region III and IV Archaeologist.

Archaeological Survey for previous project within site survey area previously conducted by:
Marla Mealey and Roy Pettus, State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, 8885 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 270, San Diego, CA 92108.
Part 6: Survey Methods and Procedures

Survey strategy: Most of the project area had previously been surveyed. The strategy was to relocate the known sites and to spot check high probability areas.

Time spent conducting archaeological field survey: Six hours

Date or Dates the survey was conducted: October 19, 2005

Survey coverage intensity: The survey for this project consisted of relocating known sites and walking along the New Water Tower Fire Access Road and the Old Water Tower Fire Access Road. A zig-zag line was walked from the water tower westward toward the dam.

Ground visibility/other limitations: Ground visibility was good, duff was easy to move with a boot scrape. Limitations included manzanita and other brush.

Other relevant information: None.

Part 7: Survey Results

CA-RIV-6414, Flying Cat Site, 29m X 23m prehistoric site, four mortars and two slicks on three features. The “flying cat” is a wood and rock “art” feature on top of a granite boulder.

CA-RIV-6415/H, Flipped Bridge Site, 44m X 26m, historic and prehistoric site. Historic features and artifacts include rock fire rings, wood storage box, trash, logging cable, saw-cut high stumps. The prehistoric included a single grinding slick. The portable metate fragment was not relocated. Feature #5 may have been relocated; rocks were in the area, although it was difficult to discern if it was the rock fire ring.

CA-RIV-6416/H, Can Cache Site, 25m X 10m, historic site. Noted were the rock fire ring, scattered cans and a “Coors” church-key can opener. The boulder with the crevice into which several cans had been stored was covered with a rat nest. Therefore, these cans weren’t relocated.

CA-RIV-6622H, Cinder Dam Site, 10 feet X 13 feet, historic site. This cinderblock and mortar dam was located as recorded. No changes to the site have occurred since it was recorded.

CA-RIV-6916H, Mount San Jacinto CCC Trails Site, historic site. Twenty-six miles of trail were built by the CCC’s between 1933 and 1936. Only a portion of the trail system is within the project area.

P-33-9623, Groundstone Frag. #1 Isolate. This area was thoroughly surveyed and the isolate could not be relocated.

P-33-9624, Groundstone Frag. #2 Isolate. The recorded location of this isolate was found, although the isolate was not on the granite boulder. The area was thoroughly surveyed and the isolate could not be relocated.

P-33-9625, Metate on a Stick Isolate. The stump “stick” that this metate was initially recorded on was located. The metate was not on the stump. The area was thoroughly surveyed and the metate could not be relocated.

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Part 8: Evaluation of Significance
Preliminary determination of significance of listed sites (if required): This project, completed as proposed, will not have damaging effects to any of the sites, therefore a preliminary significance determination is not required.

Part 9: Protection Measures
All sites shall be protected within their mapped site boundary. The isolated finds, not relocated, shall also be protected in an area 25 feet surrounding their mapped location.

Brush can be hand cut from within the site boundaries. No burning of piles shall be permitted within the site boundaries. Roads traversing through the sites may be used but vehicles and equipment shall not leave the road prism. Because the surveyor is confident in the mapped site boundary, no additional protection measures are needed between the site boundary and 100 feet from the boundary.

Part 10: Implementation of Protection Measures
The Crew Captains shall be shown the location of each site and its boundaries. Protection measures shall be discussed at each site. Crews shall be closely supervised while working within site boundaries. Artifacts and "art" features are not to be moved. Equipment shall not leave the road within site boundaries. Although brush may be cut from within site boundaries, the brush is to be cut in a mosaic pattern, as to not completely clear all the vegetation away from the site, which would encourage looting of artifacts.

Part 11: Other Applicable Information
Additional Information: If cultural resources are discovered during the project, work will stop within the site location and within 100 feet of the site. The CAL FIRE Archaeologist will be notified, protection measures discussed and the new site will be recorded. After this occurs, work in the area may resume, in concurrence with the CAL FIRE Archaeologist.

Part 12: List of Attachments
(X) Archaeological Records Check Request (X) Archaeological Coverage Map (1:1 scale of USGS 7.5' quad)
(X) Archaeological Records Check Request Map ( ) Additional Archaeological coverage map(s)
(X) Information Center Reply (X) Project Vicinity Map
(X) Example of Notice(s) to Native Americans: ( ) Written Reply from Native Americans
(X) USFS or other Agency Correspondence: ( ) Site Records
( ) Other: ( ) Photographs

Part 13: Professional Review and Approval
Linda C. Pollack  Signature of CAL FIRE Archaeologist  Date Signed: Nov. 17, 2005
Printed name: Linda Pollack
Title: CAL FIRE Region III and IV Archaeologist
Location: 1234 E. Shaw Ave., Fresno, CA, 93710 (559) 243-4119

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