Appendix B

Cultural Resources Technical Report

Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project

Cultural Resources Technical Report

prepared for

El Toro Water District
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Executive Summary

El Toro Water District (District) retained Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) to conduct a cultural resources study for the Aliso Creek Lift Station (ACLS) Improvements Project (project), located in the city of Laguna Woods, Orange County, California. The project is designed to increase pump performance to allow the ACLS to operate at 4,100-gallons-per-minute design capacity, address the maintenance issues of the existing piping and equipment, simplify maintenance activities, and accommodate existing flows as well as the additional wastewater flows anticipated to be generated by the planned Village at Laguna Hills development. The project would not expand the footprint of the ACLS beyond its current boundaries.

It is anticipated the District will seek federal funding for the project from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and, therefore, the project would be subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act with the Federal Emergency Management Agency acting as the federal lead agency. The project is also subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) with the District acting as the lead agency under CEQA.

This cultural resources study has been prepared to support compliance with both CEQA and Section 106 and includes the methods and results of a cultural resources records search through the California Historical Resources Information System, Native American Heritage Commission Sacred Lands File search, tribal and local interested party outreach, field survey, and recordation and evaluation of one cultural resource identified within the area of potential effect (APE).

The background research and cultural resources survey identified one cultural resource in the APE, the ACLS, which was recorded and evaluated for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources and the National Register of Historic Places. The ACLS is recommended ineligible for state and federal designation due to a lack of significance. As such, the ACLS is not considered a historical resource as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) or a historic property under Section 106 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act as defined by 36 Code of Federal Regulations 800.16(l)(1).

This study did not identify any archaeological resources or archaeological deposits within the APE. Given the level of past disturbance to the APE and vicinity, which has likely resulted in substantial modification of subsurface soils, coupled with the findings of this study, the APE is considered to have a low potential to support the presence of intact subsurface archaeological resources within previously undisturbed native soils to the proposed maximum depths of disturbance.

Based on the information summarized above, Rincon recommends a finding of **no impact** to historical resources and **less-than-significant impact with mitigation** for archaeological resources. As a standard best management practice under CEQA, Rincon has recommended a measure to implement in the unlikely event of an unanticipated discovery of cultural resources during construction.

Rincon recommends a finding of ***no historic properties affected*** for the project under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. In the event of a post-review discovery during ground disturbance associated with the project, the procedures under 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800.13 should be followed by the lead federal agency.

1 Introduction

El Toro Water District (District) retained Rincon Consultants Inc. (Rincon) to perform a cultural resources study for the Aliso Creek Lift Station (ACLS) Improvements Project (project) in the city of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The purpose of this technical report is to document the methods and results of a cultural resources records search, Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Land File (SLF) search, tribal and local interested parties outreach, field survey, and recordation and evaluation of one cultural resource identified within the area of potential effect (APE). Cultural resources work performed in support of the project has been completed pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The Federal Emergency Management Agency is anticipated to serve as the lead federal agency for the purposes of Section 106 of the NHPA (if the project is awarded federal funding), and the District is the lead agency for the purposes of CEQA.

1.1 Project Description

The project is designed to increase pump performance to allow the ACLS to operate at 4,100-gallons-per-minute design capacity, address the maintenance issues of the existing piping and equipment, simplify maintenance activities, and accommodate existing flows as well as the additional wastewater flows anticipated to be generated by the planned Village at Laguna Hills development, proposed within the District's existing service area. This project is necessary to improve the reliability of the ACLS and reduce the potential for unexpected leaks and/or overflows affecting nearby environmental resources, such as Aliso Creek. The project would not expand the footprint of the ACLS beyond its current boundaries.

Components of the project include the following:

- Demolition and removal of the existing electrical building, wet well access hatch, various components of the dry pit (including electrical components, valves, and access stairs), access driveway, access gate, air release manhole, concrete containment curbs, and various piping and electrical conduits within the existing lift station;
- Abandonment and backfilling of the existing wet well in place;
- Relocation of the existing emergency bypass pump and emergency diesel pump;
- Reconfiguration of electrical equipment;
- Conversion of the existing dry pit into emergency storage;
- Construction of a new 12-foot-diameter, 30-foot-deep wet well with a 16-foot-diameter foundation;
- Construction of a new approximately 250-square-foot, 13-foot-tall electrical building;
- Installation of two new 48-inch-diameter emergency discharge manholes;
- Replacement of the existing 350-kilowatt emergency generator with a new 500-kilowatt emergency diesel generator and yard piping;
- Installation of a new connection to the existing downstream 14-inch force main;
- Installation of a new, 20-foot-wide access driveway perpendicular to Avenida Sevilla with rolling access gate and restoration of sidewalk, curb, and gutter in location of existing driveway;

- Replacement of the existing concrete masonry unit (CMU) block wall along the southeast boundary of the existing lift station facing the paved Upper Aliso Creek Trail with an eight-foot-tall wall of similar materials; and
- Removal of approximately 15 trees along the northwestern, northeastern, and southwestern sides of the existing lift station and planting of approximately three new, 24-inch box trees along the southwestern boundary of the project site.

Project construction is anticipated to begin as early as July 2026 and last approximately 18 months. Approximately 340 cubic yards of soil would be excavated and reused as fill material on site. In addition, approximately 80 cubic yards of soil would be imported from off-site sources, and approximately 160 cubic yards of soil would be exported from the project site. The maximum depth of excavation during project construction would be approximately 30 feet below ground surface for the wet well.

The project site is located within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West on the *San Juan Capistrano, California* United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 1). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing ACLS within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site includes staging and laydown areas within a segment of the paved Upper Aliso Creek Trail adjacent to the existing ACLS and within a segment of the private right-of-way of Avenida Sevilla adjacent to the existing ACLS. If additional off-site staging areas are necessary, the District would require the construction contractor(s) to only utilize paved areas for staging.

1.2 Area of Potential Effects

The APE is the geographic area or areas within which a project may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties. Determination of the APE is influenced by the project's setting, the scale and nature of the undertaking, and the different kinds of effects that may result from the undertaking (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 800.16[d]).

The APE was developed by Rincon in coordination with the District to identify resources in the area that have potential for historic significance, that should be evaluated for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and that may be directly or indirectly affected by the undertaking, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.16(d).

The APE is coterminous with the project footprint (Figure 2). This includes Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04. The APE consists of the existing ACLS, a portion of the paved Upper Aliso Creek Trail located east of the ACLS, and a portion of the Avenida Sevilla private right-of-way, including paved roadway and sidewalk (Figure 3). The total acreage of the APE is approximately 0.16 acre.

The project would not expand the footprint of the ACLS beyond its current boundaries, and project activities would not extend beyond the limits of the paved Upper Aliso Creek Trail into the Aliso Creek riparian corridor. Therefore, there is no potential for the undertaking to result in indirect effects to any properties, and the APE is limited to the project footprint.

The APE must be considered as a three-dimensional space that includes any ground disturbance associated with construction. The belowground vertical APE is assumed to be a maximum of 30 feet below ground surface to account for the new wet well. The aboveground vertical APE is assumed to be a maximum of 13 feet above ground surface to account for the height of the roof of the new electrical building.

Figure 1 Regional Project Location

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Fig 1 Regional Location

Project Location

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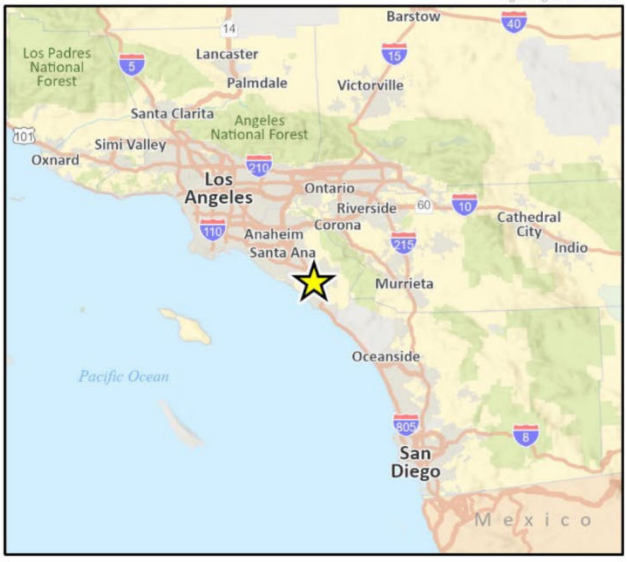

Figure 2 Area of Potential Effects

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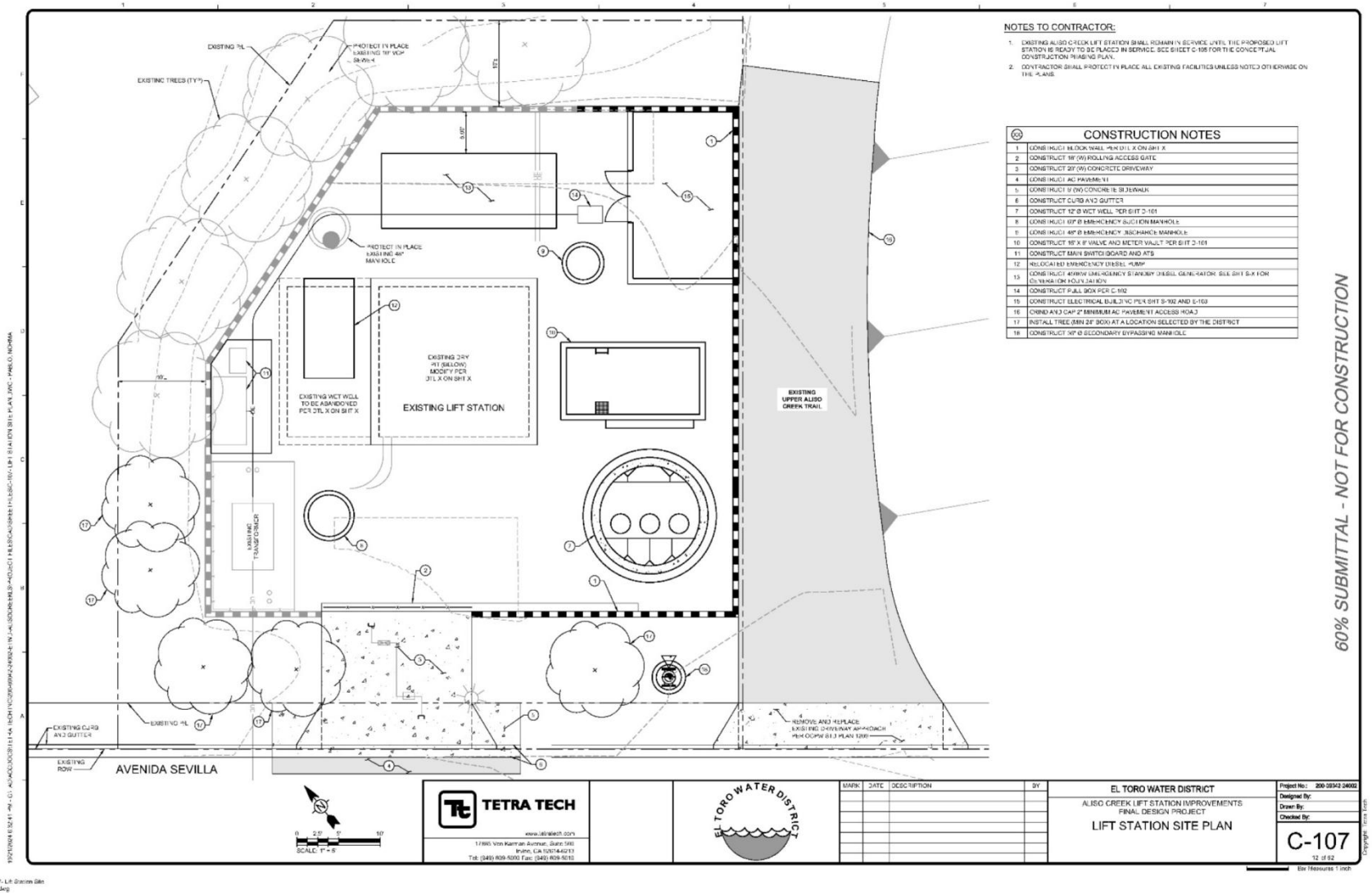
CRFig 2 Project Site

Figure 3 Project Site Plan



Source: Tetra Tech 2024

1.3 Personnel

Senior Archaeologist Kholood Abdo, MA, Registered Professional Archaeologist, provided management oversight with regard to archaeological resources and is a contributing author of this report. Archaeologist Andrea Ogaz, MA, Registered Professional Archaeologist, performed the cultural resources records search, conducted the field survey, completed the Native American outreach, and is a contributing author on this report. Ms. Abdo and Ms. Ogaz meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for Prehistoric and Historic Archaeology (National Parks Service [NPS] 2020). Architectural Historian Josh Bevan, AICP, MSHP, conducted the local historical group outreach, directed the built environment survey conducted by Ms. Ogaz, and is a contributing author of this report. Rincon Cultural Resources Principal Margo Nayyar, MA, provided management oversight for this cultural resources study, serves as the principal investigator for built environment resources, and reviewed this report for quality control. Ms. Nayyar and Mr. Bevan meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for History and Architectural History (NPS 2020). Geographic Information Systems Analyst Paul Rigby prepared the figures found in this report.

2 Regulatory Setting

This section includes a discussion of the applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards governing cultural resources, which must be adhered to before and during implementation of the project.

2.1 Federal

It is anticipated that the District will be seeking funds for the project provided by the federal government through the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Projects that involve federal funding or permitting (i.e., have a federal nexus) must comply with the provisions of the NHPA, as amended (16 United States Code 470f). The NHPA of 1966 established a federal program for the preservation of historic properties, including built environment, archaeological, and traditional cultural resources. Towards this end, the NHPA establishes both institutions and defined processes to direct federal agencies and support state and local governments in their historic preservation programs and activities. These institutions and processes include the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, State Historic Preservation Officers, NRHP, and Section 106 review process.

2.1.1 Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

Section 106 (16 United States Code 470f) requires federal agencies to account for the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings. Historic properties are defined as buildings, structures, districts, sites, or objects that are included in or eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Section 106 is implemented through 36 CFR Part 800, which outlines the process for historic preservation review, including participants, identification efforts, and the assessment and resolution of adverse effects. Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.16(y), a federal undertaking is defined as any project requiring or receiving a federal permit, license, approval, or funding. Federal agencies must take steps to determine if the undertaking would result in an adverse effect to historic properties and take measures to avoid or resolve those effects as feasible.

2.1.2 National Register of Historic Places

Authorized by Section 101 of the NHPA, the NRHP is the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. The NRHP recognizes the quality of significance in American, state, and local history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 60.4, a property is eligible for listing in the NRHP if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

Criterion A: Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

Criterion B: Is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past

Criterion C: Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of installation, 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

Criterion D: Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

In addition to meeting at least one of the above designation criteria, resources must also retain integrity. The NPS recognizes seven aspects or qualities that, considered together, define historic integrity. To retain integrity, a property must possess several of these seven qualities—if not all—defined in the following manner:

Location: The place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred

Design: The combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property

Setting: The physical environment of a historic property

Materials: The physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property

Workmanship: The physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory

Feeling: A property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time

Association: The direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property

Certain properties are generally considered ineligible for listing in the NRHP, including cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions, relocated structures, or commemorative properties. In addition, a property must be at least 50 years of age to be eligible for listing in the NRHP. The NPS states that 50 years is the general estimate of the time needed to develop the necessary historical perspective to evaluate significance (NPS 1997: 41). Properties that are less than 50 years in age must be determined to have "exceptional importance" to be considered eligible for NRHP listing.

2.2 State

2.2.1 California Environmental Quality Act

California Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 21084.1 requires lead agencies to determine if a project could have a significant impact on historical or unique archaeological resources. As defined in PRC Section 21084.1, a historical resource is a resource listed in, or determined eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), a resource included in a local register of historical resources or identified in a historical resources survey pursuant to PRC Section 5024.1(g), or any object, building, structure, site, area, place, record, or manuscript that a lead agency determines to be historically significant. PRC Section 21084.1 also states resources meeting the above criteria are presumed to be historically or culturally significant unless the preponderance of evidence demonstrates otherwise. Resources listed in the NRHP are automatically listed in the CRHR, as are California Historical Landmarks 770 and above; both categories of resources are therefore historical resources under CEQA. Historical resources may include eligible built environment resources and archaeological resources of the precontact or historic periods.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(c) provides further guidance on the consideration of archaeological resources. If an archaeological resource does not qualify as a historical resource, it

may meet the definition of a "unique archaeological resource" as identified in PRC Section 21083.2. PRC Section 21083.2(g) defines an unique archaeological resource as an 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) it contains information needed to answer important scientific research questions and there is a demonstrable public interest in that information; 2) it has a special and particular quality such as being the oldest of its type or the best available example of its type; or 3) it is directly associated with a scientifically-recognized important prehistoric or historic event or person.

If an archaeological resource does not qualify as a historical or unique archaeological resource, the impacts of a project on those resources are considered less than significant and need not be considered further (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5[c][4]). CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 also provides guidance for addressing the potential presence of human remains, including those discovered during the implementation of a project.

According to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(b), an impact that results in a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource is considered a significant impact on the environment. A substantial adverse change could result from physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of the historical resource would be materially impaired (CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5[b][1]). Material impairment is defined as demolition or alteration in an adverse manner of those characteristics of a historical resource that convey its historical significance and that justify its inclusion in, or eligibility for inclusion in, the CRHR or a local register (*CEQA Guidelines* Section 15064.5[b][2][A]).

If it can be demonstrated that a project would 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 (PRC Section 21083.2[a][b]).

The requirements for mitigation measures under CEQA are outlined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(a)(1). In addition to being fully enforceable, mitigation measures must be completed within a defined time period and be roughly proportional to the impact of the project. Generally, a project that is found to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* is considered to have its impacts mitigated below the level of significance (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4[b][1]). For historical resources of an archaeological nature, lead agencies should also seek to avoid damaging effects where feasible. Preservation in place is the preferred manner to mitigate impacts to archaeological sites; however, data recovery through excavation may be the only option in certain instances (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4[b][3]).

California Register of Historical Resources

The CRHR was established in 1992 and codified by PRC Sections 5024.1 and Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 4852. The CRHR is an authoritative listing and guide to be used by state and local agencies, private groups, and citizens in identifying the existing historical resources of the state and to indicate which resources deserve to be protected, to the extent prudent and feasible, from substantial adverse change (PRC 5024.1[a]). The criteria for eligibility for the CRHR are consistent with the NRHP criteria but have been modified for state use in order to include a range of historical resources that better reflect the history of California (PRC 5024.1[b]). However, unlike the NRHP, the CRHR does not have a defined age threshold for eligibility; rather, a resource may be eligible for

the CRHR if it can be demonstrated sufficient time has passed to understand its historical or architectural significance (California Office of Historic Preservation [OHP] 2011). Furthermore, resources may still be eligible for listing in the CRHR even if they do not retain sufficient integrity for NRHP eligibility (OHP 2011). Generally, the OHP recommends resources over 45 years of age be recorded and evaluated for historical resources eligibility (OHP 1995: 2).

A property is eligible for listing in the CRHR if it meets one of more of the following criteria:

Criterion 1: Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage

Criterion 2: Is associated with the lives of persons important to our past

Criterion 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

Criterion 4: Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history

California Assembly Bill 52 of 2014

As of July 1, 2015, Assembly Bill (AB) 52 was enacted and expands CEQA by defining a new resource category, "tribal cultural resources." AB 52 establishes that "a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment" (PRC Section 21084.2). It further states the CEQA lead agency shall establish measures to avoid impacts that would alter the significant characteristics of a tribal cultural resource, when feasible (PRC Section 21084.3).

PRC Section 21074(a)(1)(A-B) defines tribal cultural resources as "sites, features, places, cultural landscapes, sacred places, and objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe" and that meets at least one of the following criteria, as summarized in CEQA Guidelines Appendix G Environmental Checklist:

1) Listed or eligible for listing in the CRHR, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in PRC Section 5020.1(k)
2) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in PRC Section 5024.1(c). In applying these criteria, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

AB 52 also establishes a formal consultation process with California Native American tribes that must be completed before the CEQA lead agency can adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration or certify an Environmental Impact Report. Under AB 52, lead agencies are required to "begin consultation with a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the project." California Native American tribes to be included in the process are those that have requested notice of projects within the jurisdiction of the lead agency.

2.2.2 California Health and Safety Code

Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code states that in the event of discovery or recognition of any human remains in any location other than a dedicated cemetery, there shall be no further excavation or disturbance of the site or any nearby area reasonably suspected to overlie adjacent remains until the County Coroner has determined if the remains are subject to the Coroner's authority. If the human remains are of Native American origin, the Coroner must notify the NAHC within 24 hours of this identification.

2.2.3 California Public Resources Code Section 5097.98

PRC Section 5097.98 states the NAHC, upon notification of the discovery of Native American human remains pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, shall immediately notify those persons that it believes to be descended from the deceased (i.e., the Most Likely Descendant [MLD]). With permission of the landowner or a designated representative, the MLD may inspect the remains and any associated cultural materials and make recommendations for treatment or disposition of the remains and associated grave goods. The MLD shall provide recommendations or preferences for treatment of the remains and associated cultural materials within 48 hours of being granted access to the site.

2.3 City of Laguna Woods General Plan Conservation Element

The City of Laguna Woods does not have a Historic Preservation Ordinance, historic resources register, or locally-designated historic resources. The City of Laguna Woods General Plan Conservation Element (2015) includes one goal related to cultural resources, as follows.

Goal CO-3. Preserve cultural resources.

Policy CO-3.1. Identify and protect archeological, paleontological, and historical resources.

Implementation Action A. Formalize local cultural resource preservation activities by implementing components of the National Park Service's Certified Local Government (CLG) program.

3 Natural and Cultural Setting

This section provides background information on the natural and cultural context of the APE. It places the APE in the broader natural environment that has sustained populations throughout history. This section also provides an overview of regional indigenous history, local ethnography, and post-contact history. This background information describes the distribution and type of cultural resources documented in the vicinity of the APE to inform the cultural resources sensitivity assessment and the context in which resources have been evaluated.

3.1 Natural Setting

The APE lies within the Aliso Creek Corridor in Orange County at an approximate elevation of 92 meters (305 feet) above mean sea level (Google 2024). The APE consists of an existing lift station within the private Laguna Woods Village community and is surrounded by residential development. Vegetation within the APE consists of manicured landscapes, including ornamental trees, consistent with an urban setting. None of the immediate APE retains its natural setting. Aliso Creek lies immediately east of the APE; the creek has been significantly modified but retains some of its natural setting.

3.2 Cultural Setting

3.2.1 Indigenous History

The APE lies in what is described generally as California's Southern Bight (Byrd and Raab 2007). This region extends from the Mexican border to Santa Monica 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, Cupeño, and Kumeyaay (Ipai and Tipai). For this study, the indigenous cultural chronology for the Southern Bight is presented following Byrd and Raab (2007), who divided it into the Early (9600–5600 Before Common Era [BCE]), Middle (5600–1650 BCE), and Late (1650 BCE–1769 Common Era [CE]) Holocene.

Early Holocene (circa 9600 to 5600 BCE)

Evidence of Paleo-Indian occupation of Southern California remains very limited. The earliest accepted dates for human occupation of the California coast are from the Northern Channel Islands, off the Santa Barbara coast. Daisy Cave, on San Miguel Island, dates to as early as 9600 BCE (Erlandson et al. 1996). Human remains found at the Arlington Springs site on Santa Rosa Island have yielded a date of approximately 10,000 BCE (Johnson et al. 2002). San Diego and Orange counties and the Southern Channel Islands have not produced dates as early as these, but radiocarbon evidence has dated early occupation of the coastal region between circa 8000 and 7000 BCE (Byrd and Raab 2007).

Traditional models describe California's first inhabitants as big-game hunters roaming North America during the end of the last Ice Age. As the Ice Age ended, 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 cultural response to these changing climatic conditions in the Southern California coastal region and was named originally for the cultural sequence in western San Diego County (Rogers 1929 and 1939). Leaf-shaped points, knives, crescents, and scrapers characterize the artifact assemblages throughout the region (Byrd and Raab 2007). San Dieguito sites show evidence generally of the hunting of various animals, including birds, and gathering of plant resources (Moratto 1984).

Middle Holocene (circa 5600 to 1650 BCE)

The Middle Holocene is 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 to 5000 BCE, 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).

Sometime around 4,000 years ago, extensive estuarine silting began to cause a decline in shellfish, resulting in 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).

Late Holocene (circa 1650 BCE to 1769 CE)

The Late Holocene witnessed numerous cultural adaptations. The bow and arrow were adopted sometime after 500 CE, and ceramics are found with frequency in sites dating to circa 1200 CE. Food surpluses, especially of acorns, sustained populations (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).

3.2.2 Ethnographic Setting

The APE is located in the traditional territory of the Juaneño. The name Juaneño refers to the people associated with the Mission San Juan Capistrano during Spanish Colonial times (Bean and Shipek 1978; Kroeber 1925; Stever 2017). The Juaneño language is derived from the Takic family that is part of the larger Uto-Aztecan language stock. This is similar to the Gabrieleño to the north. It shares a dialect with the Luiseño people to the south. While some ethnographers refer to the Juaneño and Luiseño as separate groups (Kroeber 1925; Harrington 1934), linguistic and cultural similarities led others to suggest they are the same group (White 1963; Bean and Shipek 1978). Contemporary Juaneño and coastal Luiseño, who identify themselves as descendants of the indigenous people living in the modern day counties of Orange, Riverside, and San Diego, refer to themselves collectively as one group: *Acjachemen* (Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation 2020).

Juaneño people resided in permanent, autonomous villages in sheltered coves or canyons and had associated seasonal camps in valley bottoms, along streams, and along coastal strands near the villages. Villages were composed of a dominant clan who maintained access to hunting and resource

collecting areas (Bean and Shipek 1978). The politically independent villages ranged in size from 35 to 300 people. They were led by a hereditary chief in conjunction with an advisory council, who together conducted economic, ceremonial, and warfare activities. Chiefs were largely charged with interactions between other villages, including declaring war or peace. While the role of chief was patrilineal, women could also serve as chief in a reduced capacity. In these cases, the closest male family member would conduct most of the affairs with other villages (Harrington 1934).

Juaneño villages were situated near viable water and food sources. Subsistence strategies included hunting game animals and gathering nuts, seeds, and plants. Acorns were a dietary staple and were prepared in various ways. Seeds would be gathered and ground into a mush. Other important food sources included grass, manzanita, chia, pine nuts, and yucca. Hunting of wild game such as deer, rabbit, ground squirrel, quail, and other fowl would be done with a bow and arrow. The skins of deer and coyote were also used to make a garment worn over the shoulders (Harrington 1934; Stever 2017)

The mythological figure *Chinigchinich* was the center of the Juaneño religion. The religious beliefs of the Juaneño describe the sagas of the first man, Wiyot or Ouiot, and the creation of the world. Ceremonies included initiation rites, where children were given jimsonweed to find their guardian animal; girl's puberty rites, which included lying in a stone-lined pit and fasting; and mourning ceremonies, which included cremation of the dead and cutting of the hair (Boscana 1846; Kroeber 1925).

After the introduction of the mission system to the area by Junipero Serra in 1776, the Spanish military presence and European disease decimated the rural population. While the Juaneño continued to practice cultural and religious ceremonies in resistance to missionization, missionaries continued to baptize Juaneño children and attempted to prevent the passing of knowledge with punishments like confinement and lashing. By 1834, the Juaneño population declined to about 800 (Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation 2020).

3.2.3 Post-Contact Setting

The post-contact history of California is generally divided into three time spans: the Spanish Period (1769 to 1822), the Mexican Period (1822 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present). Each of these periods is briefly described below.

Spanish Period (1769 to 1822)

Spanish exploration of California began when Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo led the first European expedition into the region in 1542. For more than 200 years after his initial expedition, Spanish, Portuguese, British, and Russian explorers sailed the California coast and made limited inland expeditions, but they did not establish permanent settlements (Bean 1968; Rolle 2003). In 1769, Gaspar de Portolá and Franciscan Father Junipero Serra established the first Spanish settlement in what was then known as Alta (upper) California at Mission San Diego de Alcalá. This was the first of 21 missions erected by the Spanish between 1769 and 1823. It was during this time that initial Spanish settlement of the project site vicinity began. Mission San Juan Capistrano was first founded in 1775, was the seventh mission to be established in California, and is located approximately four kilometers (2.5 miles) northeast of the APE (Mission San Juan Capistrano 2015).

Mission San Juan Capistrano grew for 30 years and reached a population of 1,000 by 1806. By 1812, the mission began to decline following an earthquake that caused the collapse of the Great Stone

Church. Additional factors influencing the decline of the mission included European diseases and a decline in birth rate (Mission San Juan Capistrano 2015).

Mexican Period (1822 to 1848)

The Mexican Period commenced when news of the success of the Mexican War of Independence (1810 to 1821) against the Spanish crown reached California in 1822. This period saw the privatization of mission lands in California with the passage of the Secularization Act of 1833. This act federalized mission lands and enabled Mexican governors in California to distribute former mission lands to individuals in the form of land grants. Successive Mexican governors made more than 700 land grants between 1822 and 1846, putting most of the state's lands into private ownership for the first time (Shumway 2007). Rancho Boca de la Playa was granted to Emigdio Vejar by Mexican Governor Pio Pico in 1846 following the Mexican-American War and includes a portion of the current APE (*Los Angeles Times* 1995).

The Mexican Period for the Orange County region ended in early January 1847. Mexican forces fought and lost to combined U.S. Army and Navy forces in the Battle of the San Gabriel River on January 8 and in the Battle of La Mesa on January 9 (Nevin 1978). On January 10, leaders of the pueblo of Los Angeles surrendered peacefully after Mexican General Jose Maria Flores withdrew his forces. Shortly thereafter, newly-appointed Mexican Military Commander of California Andrés Pico surrendered all of Alta California to U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont in the Treaty of Cahuenga (Nevin 1978).

American Period (1848 to Present)

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 conquered territory including California, Nevada, Utah, and parts of Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and Wyoming. Settlement of the Los Angeles region increased dramatically in the early American Period.

The discovery of gold in Northern California in 1848 led to the California Gold Rush, though the first significant amount of California gold was previously discovered in Placerita Canyon in Los Angeles County in 1842 (Guinn 1977; Workman 1935). By 1853, the population of California exceeded 300,000. Thousands of settlers and immigrants continued to immigrate to the state, particularly after the completion of the First Transcontinental Railroad in 1869. In 1854, the U.S. Congress agreed to let San Pedro in Los Angeles County become an official port of entry. By the 1880s, the railroads had established networks from the port and throughout Los Angeles and Orange counties, resulting in fast and affordable shipment of goods, as well as a means to transport new residents to the booming region (Dumke 1944). New residents included many health-seekers drawn to the area in the 1870s to 1880s by the fabled climate.

Many ranchos in Orange County were sold or otherwise acquired by Americans in the mid-1800s, and most were subdivided into agricultural parcels or towns. In 1869, Emigdio Vejar sold Rancho Boca de la Playa to Juan Avila. In 1878, the rancho was acquired by Marcus Forster (*Los Angeles Times* 1995; Olvera 2014).

As populations increased, Orange County was created from the southern portion of Los Angeles County. Agriculture remained the primary economic activity until the 1950s, when the county's agricultural land was replaced with tract housing developments. In the mid-20th century, aerospace and manufacturing began expanding, and the opening of Disneyland created an international tourism industry (Orange County Historical Society 2015).

City of Laguna Woods

What is now the City of Laguna Woods was originally part of Rancho Niguel, granted to Juan Avila in 1842. Avila retained ownership of the rancho until 1865 when severe drought forced him into bankruptcy. By 1895, portions of the rancho were purchased by Lewis Moulton and Jean Pierre Daguerre. These lands later became Moulton Ranch (Laguna Woods History Center 2020).

Throughout the early to mid-20th century, the area was characterized by dry farming and cattle grazing developed with a few scattered ranch dwellings and barns (City of Laguna Woods 2024). At the time, El Toro Road was the main road through the area for transportation of agricultural products and cattle. Ranchers and farmers took their crops to the closest railroad station, located to the north in El Toro, which was the area's namesake before it separated into multiple cities (Zimmerman 1981).

In 1962, the area began to transition from agricultural fields and ranches to a senior residential community. Ross Cortese, owner of Rossmoor Corporation, developer of the planned community Leisure World Seal Beach, realized California lacked communities and amenities solely for individuals over the age of 52 (City of Laguna Woods 2024). Cortese had collaborated with the University of Southern California (Rossmoor-Cortese Institute for the Study of Retirement and Aging) in sponsoring a study about "what older people wanted – their needs, hopes, and plans, the kind of environment they would want, the type of social activities and hobbies they would be interested in, and above all, their health needs and medical requirements," as explained by Leisure World Laguna Hills historian Tracey E. Strevey (Tracy E. Strevey and Associates 1989). Cortese identified 3,000 acres of land within Moulton Ranch in southern Orange County. Consequently, he purchased a portion of Moulton Ranch along US Highway 101 (later known as Interstate 5) and created a second Leisure World community "to supply the basic needs of life for people aged 52 and older; create a serene atmosphere of beauty; and provide security, recreation, and religious facilities – then leave the living to the individual" (City of Laguna Woods 2024).

Although the land was available, it had no sanitation or water services, a factor that distinguished it from Cortese's Leisure World at Seal Beach. After a failed attempt at coordinating access to such services with the City of Santa Ana, the County of Orange developed a community zoning ordinance that enabled the Rossmoor Corporation to file for permits. In addition, the Rossmoor Corporation established water and sanitation service subsidiaries known as Rossmoor Water Company and Rossmoor Sanitation Incorporated (later known as Rossmoor Sanitation District). During the planning of Leisure World Laguna Hills, the District was a wholesaler of water to ranches (Tracy E. Strevey and Associates 1989), although the District eventually agreed to provide wholesale water to Rossmoor's related water and sanitation arms. Reclaimed water from the sanitation district was to be used to irrigate the community's golf course (Tracy E. Strevey and Associates 1989).

In 1964, Leisure World Laguna Hills marketed its first units, which sold in less than two hours after they were listed, at prices ranging between $12,000 and $24,000 (City of Laguna Woods 2024; Laguna Woods Village 2024). This initial development was located along Interstate 5 between Paseo De Valencia and Moulton Parkway where the Moulton Ranch House originally sat and also included the golf course across El Toro Road (NETR Online 2024). In 1968, the community reached 10,000 residents (*Tustin News* 1968). By 1972, Leisure World Laguna Hills expanded north and west along El Toro Road, and commercial development was constructed along the highway by 1980, when the city reached its current geographic limits (NETR Online 2024).

During the community's development, the prospect of incorporation first arose in 1971, but lingered until 1996, when the potential for a reduction in County of Orange services became a very real

concern. Proponents of cityhood were successful in placing the issue of incorporation on the ballot for a special election on March 2, 1999, and on March 24, 1999, Laguna Woods officially became Orange County's 32nd city (City of Laguna Woods 2024). In 2005, Leisure World Laguna Hills was renamed Laguna Woods Village and continues today as a 55-and-up community (Laguna Woods History Center 2020).

El Toro Water District

Before the formation of the District, local landowners in the region of present-day Laguna Woods, Orange County, pumped water from wells for both agricultural and domestic uses (El Toro Water District 2024). The District was formed in 1960 and provides domestic water, recycled water, and sanitary sewer utility services to a population of over 50,000 in a service area that includes portions of the cities of Aliso Viejo, Lake Forest, Laguna Hills, Mission Viejo, and all the city of Laguna Woods (El Toro Water District 2024). At the time of its foundation, the District operated as a wholesaler of water to other water supplying entities that served a population of less than 200 people across a 4,750-acre area, a portion of which included citrus groves and other agricultural uses (El Toro Water District 2024). During the early 1960s, the District, along with other water districts in the region of Orange County, planned the construction of water facilities to support ongoing community development. During this period, George H. Veeh was president of the District (*The Register* 1962).

Following authorization of a bond to finance a share of the construction of an aqueduct, water filtration plant, reservoir, and planned expansion of the distribution system, bids for the construction of a 300,000-gallon water treatment plant to serve Leisure World Laguna Hills were solicited in 1963. The aqueduct would carry water from The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (El Toro Water District 2024). The plant was completed later in the same year and its capacity was reported to provide enough potable water for roughly 100,000 people (*The Register* 1963a). Water from the Colorado River was conveyed to the plant via the related Santiago Aqueduct. During the same period, the District was planning construction of the related El Toro Reservoir, which was completed in 1967 (El Toro Water District 2024). A historical newspaper also noted that in addition to the plant near El Toro, Leisure World expected to receive water from the Moulton Niguel Water District (*The Register* 1963b). The District also constructed a water recycling treatment plant in Laguna Woods in 1963.

In 1972, the District joined five other public water districts and the City of Laguna Beach and formed the Aliso Water Management Agency (AWMA). This entity was formed to resolve concerns relating to sewage disposal. AWMA developed a regional treatment plant near Laguna Niguel Regional Park and the Aliso Creek Ocean Outfall in Laguna Beach in 1982 (El Toro Water District 2024). In 1983, the District acquired the Laguna Hills Water Company and Laguna Hills Sanitation, Inc. This resulted in the District transitioning to service as a water retailer. In the more recent past, the District completed reconstruction of major portions of its Water Recycling Plant in 1998. Additional projects have included phased expansion of El Toro Reservoir, the opening of an Education, Training and Operations Center, additional expansion of the newer Water Recycling Plant, and construction of additional recycled water pipelines (El Toro Water District 2015 and 2024).

Lift Station Property Type

Lift stations, also referred to as sewage pumps, enable sewage to be conveyed to desired locations in cases where gravity flow is not able to be used. Typically, lift stations appear in low-lying areas or hilly areas. From the lift station, sewage would be collected and pumped through a force main to a sewer main at a higher elevation operating under a gravity flow (JRP Historical Consulting LLC and

AECOM 2023). The *Drinking Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities in California: Historic Context and Research Design for National Register Evaluation* (JRP Historical Consulting LLC and AECOM 2023) provides the following description of common historical lift station/sewage pump station features:

> A sewage pumping station consisted of a storage well, two or more pumps, and the engines required to operate them. Storage was necessary as pumps operated at a continual rate while sewage inflow varied with the time of day, day of the week, and other factors. Adequate storage capacity also allowed for pumps to be taken offline for maintenance. Pumps could be submerged within the storage well, but it was often preferable to locate them in an adjacent dry well to facilitate servicing. Screens at the sewage inlets removed large materials that could clog or damage pumps, but smaller materials including toilet paper and organic solids were allowed to pass through as these created odor problems at the stations if retained. Centrifugal pumps were favored over reciprocating pumps as they were less likely to clog from the smaller bits of trash. Any type of motor could be used to operate the pump, but electrical motors became standard as they were the easiest to automate.
>
> Sewage pumps generally operated automatically by way of a switch connected to a float within the storage well. When the sewage rose above a certain level, the rising float started the pump, and it operated continually until the sewage fell back below the trigger level. If the sewage continued to rise during pumping, another float would trigger a second pump into operation. A third pump might be present as an emergency reserve and to add additional pumping capacity along lines with high peak flows.
>
> A properly maintained sewage pump plant would produce little odor and thus could be located wherever most convenient. Smaller plants could be contained in below ground vaults, while larger plants frequently had a motor room above ground and pumps below. Early pumping stations were crude, consisting of a wood or brick-lined tank, with a pump mounted on a platform above, and the whole system enclosed in a corrugated metal building. Greater attention was given to the stations as they started to encroach on residential neighborhoods. Some pumping stations constructed in the 1920s adhered to the City Beautiful movement and often featured Neoclassical or period revival design elements and landscaped grounds to emphasize the dignity of municipal service. One design manual argued that "such structures tend to remove the popular prejudice from sewerage and to arouse interest in sewerage questions." In other cases, pump stations were designed to blend in with their surroundings. A pump station of the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts near the Palos Verdes Peninsula, for example, was set below ground and landscaped above with a pergola that hid ventilation outlets. Likewise, when Long Beach constructed 14 new pump stations, the city disguised some as common stucco bungalows and built another into the central pier of a canal bridge.

Toups Engineering, Inc.

The ACLS was designed by Toups Engineering, Inc. (TEI). The firm was established in 1958 by civil engineer John M. Toups (1926–2018). Prior to establishing the firm, Toups had worked for the California Division of Highways in 1949 and worked on an early freeway construction project in Los Angeles. Afterwards, he worked for nearly two years with the Santa Paula Water District in Ventura County. In 1956, he began working for Orange County Water District. During his time with Orange County Water District, Toups participated in a major project to pump freshwater into depleted wells to combat seawater infiltration. In 1958, Toups founded TEI and would lead the firm through a period of expansion during the 1960s. The firm was responsible for the engineering of Phases 1 and

2 of Leisure World Laguna Hills (i.e., roads, grading, stormwater drainage, water supply, and sanitation facilities) and specialized in land planning and subdivisions, municipal engineering and traffic, water supply treatment, sewer systems, water reclamation, and hydrology (*Ventura County Star* 1965; *Los Angeles Times* 1967). In an oral history interview conducted in 2009, Toups noted his firm's work as Leisure World Laguna Hills was "probably the biggest" client the firm had, in terms of a project's impact on the firm's growth. TEI ended up taking over planning and engineering the community's development following a falling out between Ross Cortese and the land use planning firm he had hired to start the project (Computer History Museum 2009). Leisure World Laguna Hills provided enough work for over 50 staff at TEI, as noted by Toups. By 1970, the company had additional Southern California offices in Ontario, Laguna Hills, and Ventura, and opened an office in Dublin, California (*Contra Costa Times* 1970; *Anaheim Bulletin* 1970).

In 1970, TEI was acquired by Planning Research Corporation. Planning Research Corporation was founded by physicist Dr. Robert Krueger, who had worked for the Rand Corporation and partners in 1954. From 1970 to 1973, John M. Toups continued to serve as president of TEI, as it operated as a subsidiary of Planning Research Corporation. In 1974, he relinquished his role as president to become a senior vice president of Planning Research Corporation and oversaw Planning Research Corporation's work in urban planning and engineering (*Anaheim Bulletin* 1974). In 1978, he became CEO of Planning Research Corporation after a series of corporate leadership changes (Computer History Museum 2009). During this new phase in his career, Toups relocated to the Washington, D.C. region and became a prominent executive associated with information technology services for government clientele. In the 1980s, Planning Research Corporation's work shifted more heavily toward technology services and went through a series of mergers with Litton Industries and Northrop Grumman (Computer History Museum 2009). In his later career, Toups was a benefactor who advocated for the establishment of an engineering school at George Mason University. By 2018, the year of his death, the engineering department at that university had named its Engineering Department's laboratory in honor of Toups (George Mason University 2018).

The as-built plans prepared for the ACLS in 1965 were signed by TEI civil engineer, Lawrence R. Williams (1930–2023). Williams was listed as a vice president of the company as of 1967. Limited documentation of Williams' career was found through research of historical newspapers and documentation of TEI. Williams appears to have been born in Los Angeles and earned a civil engineering degree from Santa Clara University around 1950 (Brown Colonial Mortuary 2023). In 1967, Williams appears to have been leading studies related to water reclamation (*Independent* 1967). A date of retirement for Williams was not found. He and his family resided near Yosemite National Park for 17 years before returning to Southern California in his later years (Brown Colonial Mortuary 2023).

4 Methods

This section presents the methods for each task completed during the preparation of this assessment.

4.1 California Historical Resources Information System Records Search

On October 3, 2024, Rincon completed a search of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) at the South Central Coastal Information Center (Appendix A). The South Central Coastal Information Center is the official state repository for cultural resources records and reports for the county in which the project site is located. The records search identified previously recorded cultural resources as well as previously conducted cultural resources studies in the APE and a one-mile radius surrounding it. Rincon also reviewed the NRHP, CRHR, California Historical Landmarks list, the Built Environment Resources Directory, and the Archaeological Determination of Eligibility list. Results of the records search can be found in Appendix A.

4.2 Sacred Lands File Search and Native American Outreach

Rincon contacted the NAHC on October 4, 2024, to request a search of the SLF and a contact list of Native Americans culturally affiliated with the project vicinity (Appendix B).

On November 7, 2024, Rincon sent outreach letters to 23 Native American groups and/or individuals who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the in the area to request information on potential cultural resources in the project vicinity that may be impacted by the project. Follow-up emails were sent on November 20 and 26, 2024. Appendix C provides documentation of Rincon's outreach effort. The District is responsible for conducting AB 52 consultation for the project.

4.3 Local Historical Group Outreach

On October 17, 2024, Rincon contacted the Laguna Woods History Center and Orange County Historical Society to request any information they may have regarding historic properties in the APE. Follow-up outreach was conducted on November 13, 2024. Appendix D provides documentation of Rincon's outreach efforts.

4.4 Background and Archival Research

Rincon completed additional background and archival research in support of this study in October and November of 2024. A variety of primary and secondary source materials were consulted. Sources included, but were not limited to, historical maps, aerial photographs, and written histories of the area. The following sources were utilized to develop an understanding of the APE and its context:

- Orange County Assessor's Office parcel data accessed online via ParcelQuest
- Historical aerial photographs accessed via National Environmental Title Research, LLC (NETR) Online and the University of California, Santa Barabara Geospatial Collection
- Historical construction plans for the ACLS provided by the District
- Historical USGS topographic maps accessed online via USGS topoView
- Historical newspaper clippings obtained from Newspapers.com
- Various historical records via Ancestry.com
- Geologic maps via the USGS National Geologic Map Database
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Web Soil Survey
- Geotechnical report for the APE titled *Geotechnical Exploration Report El Toro Water District Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements 24091 Avenida Sevilla Laguna Woods, California* (Verdantas Inc. 2024)

4.5 Field Survey

Rincon Archaeologist Andrea Ogaz conducted a pedestrian survey of the APE on November 7, 2024. Rincon conducted an opportunistic pedestrian survey focused on surveying areas with exposed ground surfaces. These areas were examined for artifacts (e.g., flaked stone tools, tool-making debris, stone milling tools, ceramics, fire-affected rock), 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 historical debris (e.g., metal, glass, ceramics). Ground disturbances, such as burrows and drainages, were also visually inspected. Survey accuracy was maintained using a handheld Global Positioning Satellite unit and a georeferenced map of the APE. Site characteristics and survey conditions were documented using field records and a digital camera.

Under the direction of Rincon Architectural Historian Josh Bevan, Rincon Archaeologist Andrea Ogaz also conducted a built environment survey of the APE. Built environment resources in the APE, including lift station elements, were visually inspected. Site characteristics and conditions were documented using notes and digital photographs. Copies of the survey notes and digital photographs are maintained digitally by Rincon.

4.6 Evaluation

Pursuant to OHP Guidelines (OHP 1995:2), properties over 45 years of age were evaluated for listing in the CRHR and NRHP and recorded on California Department of Parks and Recreation 523 series forms. Overall condition and integrity of these resources were documented and assessed. One property, the ACLS, was evaluated for listing in the CRHR and NRHP.

5 Findings

This section presents the findings of each task completed during the preparation of this assessment.

5.1 California Historical Resources Information System Records Search

5.1.1 Known Cultural Resources Studies

The CHRIS records search research identified 27 cultural resources studies that have been previously conducted within one mile of the APE between 1977 and 2015 (Appendix A). Of these, one study (OR-00254) overlaps a portion of the APE. Approximately 100 percent of the APE has been studied in the last 47 years. One known study occurred in or adjacent to the APE and is discussed in further detail below.

Study OR-00254

Study OR-00254, *Archaeological Report on the Aliso Creek Specific Plan-planning Unit 1 Located in the El Toro and Laguna Hills Area of the County of Orange*, was prepared by Nancy A. Whitney Desautels for the Environmental Management Agency of Orange County in August 1977. This study was prepared to support the Aliso Creek Specific Plan-Planning Unit No. 1 to understand the archaeological sensitivity of the area and consists of a literature review, a records request to local organizations, and a pedestrian survey (Whitney-Desautels 1977). The study identified 14 previously recorded prehistoric archaeological sites, none of which are mapped within close proximity to the current study APE. No new resources were identified during the survey. None of the current study APE was surveyed for this study.

5.1.2 Known Cultural Resources

The CHRIS records search and background research identified eight cultural resources within one mile of the APE. Resources recorded in the search radius are listed in Table 1. No resources are recorded in or adjacent to the APE.

Table 1 Previously Recorded Resources within One Mile of the Project Site

Primary Number	Trinomial	Resource Type	Description	Recorder(s) and Year(s)	Eligibility Status	Relationship to APE
P-30-000388	CA-ORA-000388	Prehistoric site	Shell midden site located on a hillslope with lithics and stone tools	Jones, Carleton S. (1992); Macfarlane, Archaeological Research Inc. (1972)	Unevaluated	Outside
P-30-000414	CA-ORA-000414	Prehistoric site	Shell midden and milling stone scatter on a gently sloping ridge	Demcak, Carol, R. (1988); Foster; Reeves (1973)	Unevaluated	Outside
P-30-000415	CA-ORA-000415	Prehistoric site	Rock shelter, shell midden, stone tools and lithics	Desautels, Roger J., (1979); R. Desautels, P. Ivie, D. Whitley (1976); Nissley, C. (1973)	Unevaluated	Outside
P-30-000659	CA-ORA-000659	Prehistoric site	Low density lithic scatter	Cameron (1977)	Unevaluated	Outside
P-30-000823	CA-ORA-000823	Prehistoric site	Site with 22 cairn features, determined to be modern	Oxendine and Pink (1979); McCoy, Lesley C., Westec Services (1980)	Unevaluated	Outside
P-30-000854	CA-ORA-000854	Prehistoric site	Ground stone and fire affected rock scatter	Cooley, T. (1980)	Unevaluated	Outside
P-30-000993	CA-ORA-000993	Prehistoric site	Low density lithic scatter	Schroth; D. (1982)	Unevaluated	Outside
P-30-001006	CA-ORA-001006	Prehistoric site	Ground stone and lithic scatter	Bissell, R. (1998); Charleton, J. (1991) Schroth, D. and K. Del Chario (1982)	Unevaluated	Outside

APE = Area of Potential Effects

Source: South Central Coastal Information Center, October 2024

5.2 Native American Outreach

The NAHC responded to Rincon's SLF request on October 21, 2024, stating the results of the SLF search were positive, with a request to contact the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes for more information.

The following bullets summarize responses received to date from local Native American groups contacted by Rincon:

- **Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation – Chairperson Andrew Salas.** On November 7, 2024, Ms. Brandy Salas responded via email requesting the lead agency's contact information. Rincon responded with contact information on November 11, 2024. No further response was received from the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation.

- **Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians - Chairman Steven Estrada.** On November 7, 2024, Mr. Steven Estrada responded via email indicating the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians has no specific concerns related to this project. Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator responded via an email on the same date indicating the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians defers any comments to the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians' cultural resource department.
- **La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians- Chairperson Norma Contreras.** On November 20, 2024, Ms. Amber Nelson at the tribal office of the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians indicated the contact on file (Norma Contreras) was outdated. Rincon sent an outreach email to the updated contact, Chairperson Wendy Schlater, on November 26, 2024. No response has been received to date.

The outreach described above did not result in the identification of tribal cultural resources in the APE or its vicinity. Appendix C provides detailed documentation of Rincon's outreach efforts.

5.3 Local Historical Group Outreach

As of the date of this document, Rincon has received one response to letters sent on October 17, 2024, which is summarized below:

- **Laguna Woods History Center**. On October 24, 2024, Dean O. Dixon, CEO responded to Rincon via letter and stated: "We at the Laguna Woods History Center are unaware of any historic properties or other cultural resources in the project area or vicinity that have the potential for being affected by the proposed undertaking. The rehabilitation of an existing facility creates no new concerns regarding any historical impact, and the proposal presented in your letter and supporting documents seem to address even the aesthetics of the completed project and public access to the surroundings."

The outreach described above did not result in the identification of historic properties in the APE or its vicinity. Additional documentation related to this outreach effort is included in Appendix D.

5.4 Aerial Imagery and Historical Topographic Maps Review

Rincon completed a review of historical topographic maps and aerial imagery to ascertain the development history of the APE. The earliest available USGS topographic map, published in 1902, covered the *Corona, California* quadrangle. It indicates the APE was immediately northwest of Aliso Creek, in a sparsely developed area of Orange County south of the community of El Toro (USGS 1902). By 1902, El Toro was along the alignment of the Southern California Railroad's Surf Line, which trended southeast from Santa Ana, where the Southern Pacific Railroad had been extended. This railroad also passed through the community of Myford, to the northeast of El Toro. From the Myford area, an unnamed road trended southeast toward El Toro before heading further southward, to the west of the future site of the ACLS. The road then continued through mountainous terrain, generally alongside Aliso Creek, and eventually reached the Pacific Coast at Aliso Point (USGS 1902). The next available topographic map, *Santiago Beach, California* quadrangle 1942, depicts several properties, orchards, and US Highway 101 south of El Toro and north and west of the APE (USGS 1942). An aerial photograph from 1947 depicts the APE as a rural area with agricultural uses. Land to the immediate west of the APE appeared to be under cultivation and planted with row crops. The APE was located to the immediate northwest of what was the location

of a sharp switchback turn in Aliso Creek (County of Orange Archives 1947). Aerial photography from 1963 and 1967 depict the construction of Avenida Sevilla and bridging of Aliso Creek, which appears to have resulted in alteration to the creek's alignment in areas adjacent to the bridge, including to the east of the APE (NETR Online 2024).

The ACLS appears in the APE on aerial photographs in 1967 and 1968 and is shown to be situated in a primarily residential area with housing to the immediate north, to the south opposite Avenida Sevilla, and to the south-southeast opposite Aliso Creek (NETR Online 2024; University of California, Santa Barabara 1968). Since the mid-1960s, similar conditions have persisted in the immediate vicinity of the APE (County of Orange Archives 1990; NETR Online 2024).

5.5 Geoarchaeological Review

The APE is situated within the Peninsular Ranges Geomorphic Province (California Geological Survey 2002). This geomorphic province is characterized by northwest trending mountain ranges and valleys that extend from the northern tip of the Baja Peninsula to the Transverse Ranges. More specifically, the APE is situated within the northern portion of the physiographic area known as the San Joaquin Hills, within Monterey Formation sediments. The San Joaquin Hills extend from Newport Beach to Dana Point south of the APE.

The nearest natural water sources to the APE include Aliso Creek, located immediately adjacent to the APE; Oso Creek, located approximately three miles to the west; and the Pacific Ocean, located approximately five miles to the southwest. Geology of the region surrounding the APE has been mapped by Morton and Miller at a scale of 1:100,000. Morton and Miller identified a single geologic unit, Quaternary young axial (Qya) channel deposits, underlying the APE (Morton et al. 2006). These deposits likely occur within the channel of Aliso Creek immediately east of the APE.

According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey (USDA 2024a), soils in the APE are the Myford sandy loam complex with 2 to 9 percent slopes. Approximately 85 percent of soil in the APE are Myford Series (85 percent) with 15 percent Yorba, Capistrano and Chesterton soils. Myford sandy loam complex forms on terraces in alluvial fans and floodplains in small valleys. The typical profile of the Myford complex features a shallow A horizon (1 to 27 inch) of loam, silt loam, sandy loam, loamy fine sand, light sandy loam, and heavy loam (USDA 2024b, 2024c, 2024d, and 2024e). Because of their episodic nature of alluvial sedimentation, alluvial soils have an increased likelihood of containing buried archaeological deposits (Waters 1992). Sudden burial of artifacts is often identified when buried AB horizon are in a soil series. No buried AB horizon has been previously documented within any of the soil series identified within the APE (USDA 2024a).

The geotechnical study prepared for the project (Verdantas Inc. 2024) indicates the APE is underlain by an approximately 10-foot-thick layer of artificial fill, which consists of two inches of asphalt underlain by olive brown, brown, and mottled gray and orange clay mixed with construction debris. Artificial fill represents sediments deposited by humans to change the grade of the land and/or physical properties of the sediment.

The CHRIS records search, the NAHC SLF search, Native American outreach, and background research did not identify any known archaeological resources within or immediately adjacent to the APE. No archaeological resources were identified within the APE during the field survey. The APE was used as agricultural land as early during the 1940s through the 1960s. Agricultural use has shallow ground disturbance due to plowing and cultivation process; however, the construction of the existing ACLS in 1965 along with facility upgrades and periodic maintenance would have likely

resulted in the modification and extensive disturbance of the soils within the APE. Ground-disturbing activities for the current proposed project are expected to reach approximately three feet below the surface for the grading for foundations, and trenching for pipelines is anticipated to reach a maximum of approximately eight feet below the surface. Therefore, these activities would only impact artificial fill. Excavations for the valve and meter vault and wet well are expected to reach approximately 12 and 30 feet below the surface, respectively. Therefore, these activities would impact Monterey Formation sediments with low to no potential for encountering significant subsurface archaeological resources.

Given the level of past disturbance to the APE, which has likely resulted in substantial modification of subsurface soils, coupled with the findings of this study, the APE is considered to have a low potential to support the presence of intact subsurface archaeological resources within previously undisturbed native soils to the proposed maximum depths of disturbance.

5.6 Field Survey Results

5.6.1 Built Environmental Survey

The following section summarizes the results of the built environment field survey. The fieldwork resulted in the identification of one historic-aged property, the ACLS, in the APE (Figure 2, Photograph 1).

Aliso Creek Lift Station

The ACLS is located on the northeast side of Avenida Sevilla and immediately northwest of Aliso Creek in Laguna Woods, Orange County. The facility is owned and operated by the District and collects sewage from surrounding residences and from two upstream lift stations (4920 and Mathis), then conveys the sewage to the District's Water Recycling Plant. The facility is approximately 0.13 acre, mostly flat, and consists of the lift station contained in a six-sided enclosure secured with concrete block walls and a double-leaf entrance gate (Photograph 1). The southwest perimeter of the site is located adjacent to a sidewalk and features a planting bed with tall hedges that largely obscure the lift station from views from the southwest (Photograph 2).

An asphalt driveway accesses the entrance to the ACLS at the south. Each leaf of the entrance gate swings inward and outward and is finished with diamond-plate metal panels. The remaining walls enclosing the lift station are made of concrete block set in square grid pattern. The southeast perimeter of the site is bordered by the paved Upper Aliso Creek Trail and Aliso Creek east of the trail (Photograph 3).

The rearward northeast and northwest walls abut or are directly adjacent to elevated ground, retaining walls, and dense vegetation, which obscure the lift station from views from the north of the property, where private residences are located (Photograph 4 and Photograph 5).

The enclosed area of the ACLS contains several structures and equipment associated with the lift station, some of which are located belowground. When entering the lift station, a generator and transformer are located to the left (northwest) of the entrance. The generator is a metal box structure set on a concrete pad. The transformer is also a metal enclosure set on a concrete pad (Photograph 6).

Photograph 1 ACLS, Viewed From Avenida Sevilla, Facing North

Photograph 2 View of the Southwest Perimeter of ACLS, Facing East

Photograph 3 View of the Southeast Perimeter of ACLS, Facing North

Photograph 4 View of the ACLS from Upper Aliso Creek Trail, Facing Southwest

Photograph 5 View of Area to the North of ACLS, Facing South

Photograph 6 View of the West Corner of the Interior of the ACLS Enclosure, Generator (Center) and Transformer (Right), Facing Southeast

The center of the site contains a trailer-mounted, portable emergency bypass pump and related bypass line, which is supported by steel poles and concrete footings. Two rectangular access hatches are set into a concrete pad at the center of the site, alongside the bypass line piping (**Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference.** and Photograph 8). Paving within this area of the site includes asphalt and concrete, indicating several periods of paving installation and modification.

To the north, toward the rear of ACLS, an electrical room abuts the northeast wall. This building sits on a concrete pad and has a wood frame, pressed-wood siding at the exterior, three sets of flush-steel double doors, and a shed roof finished with standing seam metal and metal gutters (Photograph 9).

The upper and lower levels of the ACLS (both of which are subterranean) are accessed by a set of stairs positioned between the emergency bypass equipment and electrical room (Photograph 10). The stairs descend to the upper subterranean level, which contains a room with discharge pipes, a concrete floor, and concrete walls (Photograph 11).

A second staircase descends from the upper subterranean level to the lower subterranean level, which contains equipment including a gate valve, grinder, motor, and check valve, along with similar concrete finishes along the floor and walls (Photograph 12).

5.6.2 Archaeological Survey

Much of the ground in the APE is obscured by hardscaping and landscaping within and around the ACLS structure (Photograph 1 through Photograph 12). Ground visibility was poor (0 to 35 percent) with approximately 10 percent exposure. Visible soil present around the facility consisted of densely compacted greyish brown loam with sub-angular inclusions. Leaf litter obscured visibility along the access route surrounding the ACLS. Vegetation within the APE consists of manicured grass, ornamental plants, and mature trees. The area has been heavily disturbed by construction and periodic maintenance of the ACLS. No archaeological resources were identified during the field survey.

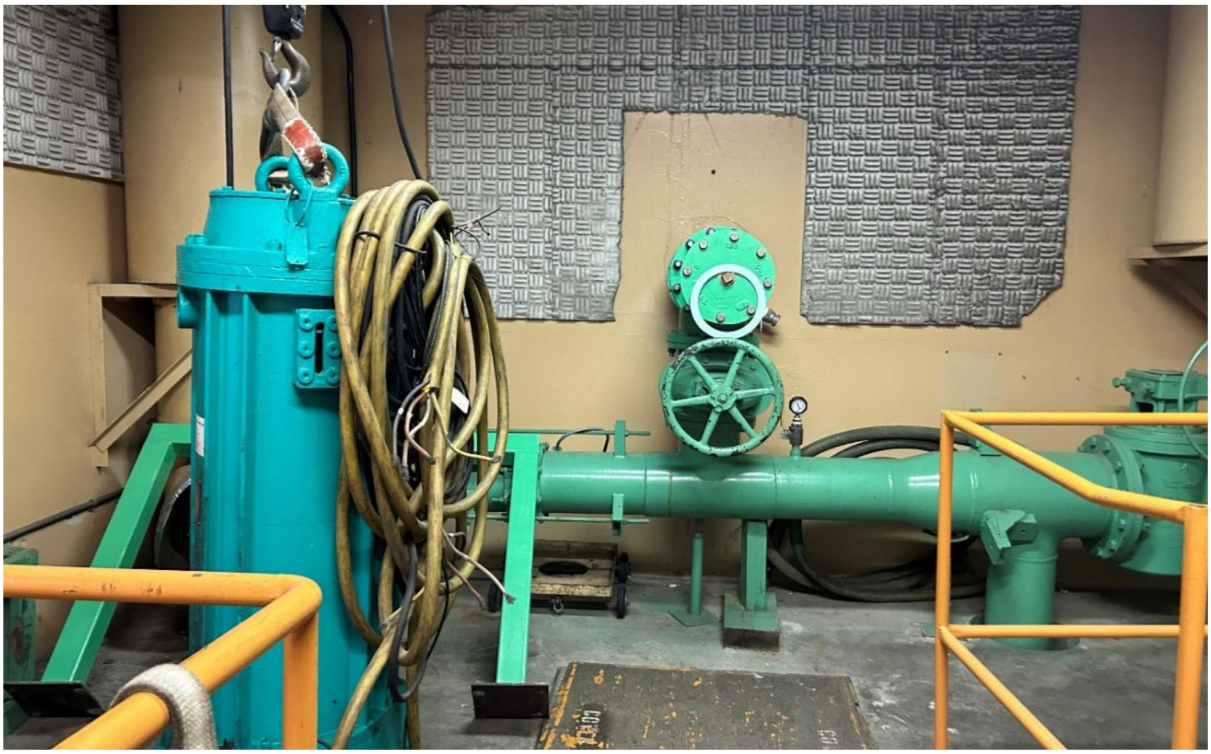
Photograph 7 View of Emergency Bypass Equipment at the Center of the ACLS, Facing North

Photograph 8 View of Emergency Bypass Equipment at the Center of the ACLS, Facing Northeast

Photograph 9 View of Electrical Room at Northeast Side of the Interior of the ACLS Interior, Facing East

Photograph 10 View of Electrical Room at the Northeast Side of the Interior of the ACLS Enclosure, Facing East

Photograph 11 View of Discharge Piping in Upper Subterranean Level of ACLS, Facing Northeast



Photograph 12 View of Lower Subterranean Level of ACLS, with Grate over Suction Pipe, Gate Valve, Grinder, and Motor (Left) and Check Valve (Background Right), Facing East

5.7 Evaluation

The ACLS was recorded on California Department of Parks and Recreation 523 series forms, which are included in Appendix E and summarized below, and evaluated for the NRHP and CRHR. The ACLS is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP and the CRHR due to a lack of historical and architectural significance.

The ACLS is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP/CRHR under Criterion A/1. The *Drinking Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities in California Historic Context and Research Design for National Register Evaluation* lift station notes "a drinking water or wastewater system may qualify for listing in the national and/or state register under Criterion A/1 if it has demonstrably significant association with an important historic event, trend, or theme […] this requires determining if a water system feature had historic importance above and beyond fulfilling its ordinary role of or purifying water or disposing sewage…" (JRP Historical Consulting LLC and AECOM 2023). The ACLS was built in 1965 during development of the Leisure World Laguna Hills community, which is now known as the Laguna Woods Village and is located in present-day Laguna Woods. Leisure World Laguna Hills was a pioneering community in terms of its development as an age-restricted development for residents 52 years of age and older. The community's developer, Rossmoor Corporation, also developed a smaller and earlier Leisure World community in Seal Beach. However, Leisure World Laguna Hills appears to have been the more noteworthy community within the company's body of work and was developed, in part, through consultation with scholars at the University of Southern California, who researched the preferences of potential middle- and senior-age residents. The former Leisure World Laguna Hills, now in present-day Laguna Woods, does not appear to have been subject to a formal study to determine its potential historical significance to patterns of community development and planning since its construction between the early and late 1960s. As a lift station, the subject property was developed by an affiliated entity, Rossmoor Sanitation District (first known as Rossmoor Sanitation Incorporated), as part of the development of the community. However, the lift station's role as a support facility within the community does not appear to stand out individually in the context of community development. The community was developed with housing, roadways, and infrastructure for electricity, water supply, and sewage removal, while the lift station's establishment has not been identified as having been a major milestone or novel development in the history of water conveyance and waste management. Research did not identify any events that occurred at the property that are of historic significance. Although currently owned and operated by the District, the lift station originated as part of another utility and was incorporated into the District's facilities in the mid-1980s, when the District acquired Rossmoor Sanitation District. Therefore, the ACLS is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP/CRHR under Criterion A/1.

Research conducted for the present study did not suggest any individual associated with the ACLS has made significant historical contributions. The station originated as a facility that supported sanitation and conveyance of sewage within Rossmoor Sanitation District's system and continues to be a facility where employees of its current owner, the District, visit and work as part of routine maintenance and operation of the lift station. However, no individual persons were found to have strong or direct association to the property, including Ross Cortese, whose achievements as a developer in Orange County would not be represented by a lift station property type. Therefore, the ACLS is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP/CRHR under Criterion B/2.

The ACLS does not appear to be individually significant as a property that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, that possesses high art values, or that

represents an important work of a master. The lift station retains its original perimeter wall, entrance oriented to Avenida Sevilla and setting within a residential area. Like many lift stations situated in residential areas, the station's design features a subordinate scale, modest materials, and perimeter landscaping that reduces its visual presence within the immediate area. The property retains its original, six-sided perimeter wall and entrance location but does not feature its original ornate gate or other features that would enable it to be highly representative of an identified architectural style. Pumping and electrical equipment has been replaced and upgraded over time as the need for increased conveyance capacity and efficiency arose. The lift station was designed by the firm TEI, which was founded by respected civil engineer John M. Toups in 1958. The station's 1965 as-built drawings were signed by civil engineer and one-time TEI vice president, Lawrence R. Williams. Research of the firm's history and body of work, and the careers of Toups and Williams, indicates that John M. Toups was considered a prominent civil engineer in Orange County during his career and went on to become a leader of Planning Research Corporation, while Lawrence R. Williams was a lesser-known civil engineer. Leisure World Laguna Hills was a major project for TEI and enabled the firm to expand and build a strong reputation for its role in the community's development. However, the lift station alone does not represent an individually significant work of John M. Toups because he is not known to have played a major part in the lift station's design and construction. Rather, the broader development of the community supported by the lift station would potentially contain features that express aspects of the firm's engineering expertise collectively. As a project that appears to have been led by Lawrence R. Williams, the lift station has not been identified as the work of a master. Furthermore, the building does not possess high artistic value because it does not exhibit artistic qualities that are considered the aesthetic ideal of a particular style or design movement. Therefore, the ACLS is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP/CRHR under Criterion C/3.

Finally, the built environment of the subject property is not likely to yield valuable information that will contribute to our understanding of human history because the property is not and never was the principal source of information pertaining to significant events, people, architectural styles, or industrial-commercial buildings constructed in the late 20th century. Therefore, the property is recommended ineligible for listing under NRHP/CRHR Criterion D/4.

In summary, the ACLS is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP and CRHR under all criteria due to lack of significance. Therefore, it is not a historical resource as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) or a historic property as defined by 36 CFR 800.16(l)(1).

6 CEQA Management Recommendations and Section 106 Findings

The following sections present Rincon's recommendations and findings under CEQA and Section 106 of the NHPA.

The CHRIS records search, background research and field survey identified no archaeological resources within the APE. One built environment resource was identified within the APE, the ACLS. The ACLS was evaluated and recommended ineligible for inclusion in the CRHR and NRHP; as such, this resource is not considered a historical resource as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) or historic property under 36 CFR 800.16(l)(1). No further work is recommended for this resource.

In addition, buried site archaeological sensitivity is considered low due to previous disturbances and soil types present within the APE. Although the SLF search yielded positive results, there is no indication a sacred site or resource of Native American origin exists within the APE based on informal outreach with local tribes.

6.1 California Environmental Quality Act

The impact analysis included here is organized based on the cultural resources thresholds included in the CEQA Guidelines Appendix G: Environmental Checklist Form:

A. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?
B. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?
C. Would the project disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?

Threshold A broadly refers to historical resources. To more clearly differentiate between archaeological and built environment resources, we have chosen to limit analysis under Threshold A to historical built environment resources. Archaeological resources, including those that may be considered historical resources pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 and those that may be considered unique archaeological resources pursuant to PRC Section 21083.2, are considered under Threshold B.

6.1.1 Historical Built Environment Resources (Threshold A)

One historic-age property, the ACLS, was identified within the APE. The ACLS is recommended ineligible for the NRHP and CRHR. As such, the property does not qualify as a historical resource pursuant to CEQA. There are no known historical resources within the project site. Therefore, Rincon recommends a finding of ***no impact*** to historical resources, and no mitigation measures are recommended.

6.1.2 Historical and Unique Archaeological Resources (Threshold B)

This study did not identify any archaeological resources or archaeological deposits in the APE and has identified the APE as having low archaeological sensitivity. However, unanticipated discoveries during construction remain a possibility. Rincon presents the following recommended mitigation measure for unanticipated discoveries during construction. With adherence to this measure, Rincon recommends a finding of ***less-than-significant impact with mitigation for archaeological resources*** under CEQA.

Unanticipated Discovery of Cultural Resources

In the event archaeological resources are unexpectedly encountered during ground-disturbing activities, work within 50 feet of the find shall halt and an archaeologist meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for Archaeology (NPS 2020) shall be contacted immediately to evaluate the resource. If the resource is determined by the qualified archaeologist to be prehistoric, then a Native American representative shall also be contacted to participate in the evaluation of the resource. If the qualified archaeologist and/or Native American representative determines it to be appropriate, archaeological testing for CRHR eligibility shall be completed. If the resource proves to be eligible for the CRHR and significant impacts to the resource cannot be avoided via project redesign, a qualified archaeologist shall prepare a data recovery plan tailored to the physical nature and characteristics of the resource, pursuant to the requirements of CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C). The data recovery plan shall identify data recovery excavation methods, measurable objectives, and data thresholds to reduce any significant impacts to cultural resources related to the resource. Pursuant to the data recovery plan, the qualified archaeologist and Native American representative, as appropriate, shall recover and document the scientifically consequential information that justifies the resource's significance. The District shall review and approve the treatment plan and archaeological testing as appropriate, and the resulting documentation shall be submitted to the regional repository of the CHRIS, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.4(b)(3)(C).

6.1.3 Human Remains (Threshold C)

No human remains are known to be present in the APE. However, the discovery of human remains is a possibility during ground-disturbing activities. If human remains are found, California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to PRC 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 of Native American origin, the Coroner will notify the NAHC, which will determine and notify an MLD. The MLD has 48 hours from being granted site access to make recommendations for the disposition of the remains. If the MLD does not make recommendations within 48 hours, the landowner shall reinter the remains in an area of the property secure from subsequent disturbance. With adherence to existing regulations, Rincon recommends a finding of ***less-than-significant impact to human remains*** under CEQA.

6.2 Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

Based on the results of this study, Rincon recommends a finding of ***no historic properties affected*** under Section 106 of the NHPA for the current undertaking. Furthermore, Rincon recommends no further archaeological resources work for the undertaking based on the previous disturbance within the APE and lack of archaeological sensitivity. Best management practices are recommended in case of unanticipated discoveries. In the event of a post-review discovery during ground disturbance associated with the undertaking, the procedures under 36 CFR Part 800.13 should be followed by the lead federal agency.

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Appendix A

California Historical Resources Information System Search Results

Report List

24-16575 Aliso Creek Lift Station

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
OR-00051		1977	Van Horn, David M.	Archaeological Survey Report on the Proposed Iglesia Park Site Located at the End of Calle Iglesia in Laguna Hills	Archaeological Associates, Ltd.	
OR-00165		1977	Desautels, Roger J.	Archaeological Survey Report on Parcel No. 621-141-45 & 47 a Subdivision of Parcel 2 - County of Orange - Book 72, Page 34, County of Orange	Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc.	
OR-00254		1977	Whitney-Desautels, Nancy A.	Archaeological Report on the Aliso Creek Specific Plan-planning Unit 1 Located in the El Toro and Laguna Hills Area of the County of Orange		30-000016, 30-000354, 30-000355, 30-000388, 30-000394, 30-000415, 30-000514, 30-000536, 30-000544, 30-000566, 30-000579, 30-000604, 30-000628, 30-000659
OR-00286		1979	Bean, Lowell	Cultural Resources and the High Voltage Transmission Line From San Onofre to Santiago Substation and Black Star Canyon	Cultural Systems Research, Inc.	30-000001, 30-000002, 30-000003, 30-000004, 30-000005, 30-000007, 30-000011, 30-000012, 30-000013, 30-000014, 30-000015, 30-000016, 30-000017, 30-000018, 30-000019, 30-000020, 30-000021, 30-000022, 30-000023, 30-000024, 30-000025, 30-000026, 30-000027, 30-000028, 30-000029, 30-000030, 30-000031, 30-000032, 30-000033, 30-000034, 30-000037
OR-00423		1979	Desautels, Roger J. and Nadine L. Zelenka	Archaeological Report on Final Salvage and Surface Collection of Site ORA-604 Located on Tract 9819 in the County of Orange, California	Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc.	30-000415, 30-000604
OR-00431		1979		Aliso Viejo Cultural/scientific Resources Management Plan	Archaeological Resource Management Corp.	30-000019, 30-000064, 30-000126, 30-000388, 30-000389, 30-000390, 30-000395, 30-000396, 30-000397, 30-000398, 30-000399, 30-000400, 30-000401, 30-000402, 30-000403, 30-000404, 30-000405, 30-000406, 30-000407, 30-000408, 30-000409, 30-000410, 30-000411, 30-000412, 30-000413, 30-000414, 30-000415, 30-000416, 30-000417, 30-000418, 30-000419, 30-000420, 30-000421, 30-000422, 30-000425, 30-000582, 30-000703

Report List

24-16575 Aliso Creek Lift Station

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
OR-00702	Paleo -	1977	Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc.	Cultural Scientific Resources Report on the Aliso Viejo Company Property Located in the Southeastern Portion of the County of Orange	Scientific Resource Surveys, Inc.	30-000006, 30-000013, 30-000017, 30-000019, 30-000020, 30-000126, 30-000177, 30-000266, 30-000388, 30-000389, 30-000390, 30-000395, 30-000396, 30-000397, 30-000398, 30-000399, 30-000400, 30-000401, 30-000402, 30-000403, 30-000404, 30-000405, 30-000406, 30-000407, 30-000408, 30-000409, 30-000410, 30-000411, 30-000412, 30-000413, 30-000414, 30-000415, 30-000416, 30-000417, 30-000418, 30-000419, 30-000420, 30-000421, 30-000422, 30-000425, 30-000581, 30-000582, 30-000604
OR-00704		1981	Schroth, Adella and Terry Quenette	Archaeological Investigations Conducted at CA-ORA-854 and CA-ORA-946, Aliso Viejo County of Orange California	Archaeological Resource Management Corp.	30-000854, 30-000946
OR-00705		1973	Anonymous	A Final Report on the Scientific Resources Survey for Moulton Ranch	Archaeological Research, Inc.	30-000013, 30-000411
OR-00926		1988	Demcak, Carol R.	Archaeological Investigations at CA-ORA-414, CA-ORA-421, and CA-ORA-1006, Laguna Hills, South Orange County, California	Archaeological Resource Management Corporation	30-000414, 30-000421, 30-001007
OR-00938		1988	Bissell, Ronald M.	Status of Cultural Resources in the Wood Canyon Area, Southern Orange County, California	RMW Paleo Associates, Inc.	30-000006, 30-000013, 30-000019, 30-000020, 30-000126, 30-000133, 30-000177, 30-000266, 30-000388, 30-000389, 30-000390, 30-000395, 30-000396, 30-000397, 30-000398, 30-000399, 30-000400, 30-000401, 30-000402, 30-000403, 30-000404, 30-000405, 30-000406, 30-000407, 30-000412, 30-000413, 30-000415, 30-000418, 30-000422, 30-000423, 30-000424, 30-000427, 30-000436
OR-00945		1982	Van Horn, David M.	Rossmoor Business Park Liquidating Trust Properties	Ultra Systems, Inc.	30-000610
OR-01073		1990	Jones, Carleton S. and Demcak, Carol R.	Archaeological Investigations at CA-ORA-1006, Locus C Laguna Hills, South Orange County, California	Archaeological Resource Management Corp.	30-000414, 30-001006

Report List

24-16575 Aliso Creek Lift Station

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
OR-01344		1993	Rosenthal, Jane	Cultural Resources Element City of Laguna Hills, Orange County, California	LSA Associates, Inc.	30-000354, 30-000355, 30-000432, 30-000515, 30-000551, 30-000604, 30-000659, 30-000702, 30-000703, 30-000769, 30-000849
OR-01439		1980	McCoy, Lesley C. and Phillips, Roxana	National Register Assessment Program of Cultural Resources of the 230 Kv Transmission Line Rights-of-way From San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station to Black Star Canyon and Santiago Substation and to Encina and Mission Valley Substation	Westec Services, Inc.	30-000419, 30-000438, 30-000447, 30-000495, 30-000496, 30-000498, 30-000499, 30-000640, 30-000700, 30-000725, 30-000782, 30-000784, 30-000785, 30-000786, 30-000787, 30-000823, 30-000824, 30-000825, 30-000826, 30-000827, 30-000828, 30-000829, 30-000830, 30-000831, 30-000832, 30-000905
OR-01721		1998	Bissell, Ronald M.	Monitoring of Grading, CA-ORA-1006, Locus C, on the AMH Golf Course Property, Orange County, California	RMW Paleo Associates, Inc.	30-001006, 30-100178
OR-01721		1998	Cummings, Linda Scott, Thomas E. Moutoux, and Kathryn Puseman	Pollen, Phytolith, and Protein Residue Analysis of a Metate Fragment from Site Ca-ORA-1006, California	Paleo Research Laboratories	
OR-01983	Cellular -	1999	Duke, Curt	Cultural Resource Assessment for Pacific Bell Mobile Services Facility Cm 533-02, County of Orange, California	LSA Associates, Inc.	
OR-02307		1975	Crabtree, Robert H.	Archaeological Inspection of Tentative Tract 7049 (Permanent Tract 7186)	Archaeological Research, Inc.	
OR-03149	Cellular -	2002	Kyle, Carolyn E.	Cultural Resource Assessment for Cingular Wireless Facility Sc058-04 City of Laguna Woods Orange County, California	Kyle Consulting	
OR-03645	Paleo -	2006	Delu, Antonina M.	Cultural Resources Monitoring Report, for the San Sebastian Project, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County, California	LSA Associates, Inc.	
OR-03665	Cellular -	2007	Bonner, Wayne H.	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for Royal Street Communications, LLC Candidate LA2722A (SCE Via Lomas Park), Tract No. 11390 off Indian Hill Lane, Laguna Hills, Orange County, California	Michael Brandman Associates	30-000823
OR-04252	Cellular -	2012	Bonner, Wayne H.	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for Verizon Wireless Candidate "Leisure World", 25615 Moulton Parkway, Aliso Viejo, Orange County, CA	Michael Brandman Associates	30-000823

Report List

24-16575 Aliso Creek Lift Station

Report No.	Other IDs	Year	Author(s)	Title	Affiliation	Resources
OR-04410		2014	Bonner, Diane, Wills, Carrie, and Crawford, Kathleen	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile West, LLC Candidate LA02362A (SC058 United Methodist Church) 24442 Moulton Parkway, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California	EAS	30-000610, 30-177526
OR-04410A		2014	Bonner, Wayne H. and Kathleen A. Crawford	Direct APE Historic Architectural Assessment for T-Mobile West, LLC Candidate LA02362A (SC058 United Methodist Church) 24442 Moulton Parkway, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California	Environmental Assessment Specialists, Inc.	
OR-04411		2014	Bonner, Diane, Carrie Wills, and Kathleen Crawford	Cultural Resources Records Search and Site Visit Results for T-Mobile West, LLC Candidate LA02533A (CM533 Crowell Weedon) 23521 Paseo de Valencia, Laguna Hills, Orange County, California.	EAS	30-177517
OR-04526		2015	Bielat, Lorna	Property Assessment for El Toro Grande / OG25XC117 Wireless Facility, 23521 Paseo de Valencia, Laguna Hills, Orange County, California	EarthTouch, Inc.	

Resource List

24-16575 Aliso Creek Lift Station

Primary No.	Trinomial	Other IDs	Type	Age	Attribute codes	Recorded by	Reports
P-30-000388	CA-ORA-000388		Site	Prehistoric	AP02; AP08; AP15	1972 (MACFARLANE, Archaeological Research Inc); 1992 (Jones, Carleton S., Archaeological Resource Archaeological Resource Management Corp.)	OR-00254, OR-00255, OR-00431, OR-00702, OR-00938, OR-01280, OR-01995, OR-03586, OR-04066, OR-04366
P-30-000414	CA-ORA-000414	Resource Name - Jas-10	Site	Prehistoric	AP02; AP15	1973 (Foster; Reeves, Archaeological Research, Inc); 1988 (Demcak, Carol R., ARM)	OR-00431, OR-00702, OR-00926, OR-01073, OR-01129, OR-01995, OR-02089, OR-03586
P-30-000415	CA-ORA-000415	Resource Name - Gas #10; Other - Pecten Reef; Voided - 30-000604	Site	Prehistoric	AP02; AP07; AP14; AP15	1973 (C. Nissley, Archaeological Research, Inc); 1976 (R. Desautels, P. Ivie, D. Whitley, SRS); 1979 (Desautels, Roger J., SRS)	OR-00016, OR-00040, OR-00254, OR-00423, OR-00431, OR-00702, OR-00938, OR-01129, OR-01873, OR-01995, OR-04352, OR-04366
P-30-000659	CA-ORA-000659		Site	Prehistoric	AP02	1977 (CAMERON, CSUF)	OR-00254, OR-01344, OR-01995, OR-04366
P-30-000823	CA-ORA-000823	Resource Name - CSRI 249	Site	Prehistoric	AP08	1979 (OXENDINE); 1980 (McCoy, Lesley C., Westec Services)	OR-01129, OR-01439, OR-03665, OR-04252
P-30-000854	CA-ORA-000854		Site	Prehistoric	AP02; AP11	1980 (Cooley, T., Archaeological Resource Management Corp.)	OR-00704, OR-01129
P-30-000993	CA-ORA-000993		Site	Prehistoric	AP02	1981 (Schroth; DelChario, Archaeological Resource Management Corp.)	OR-04366
P-30-001006	CA-ORA-001006	Resource Name - AMH Golf Course Archaeological Site	Site	Prehistoric	AP02; AP15	1982 (Schroth; Del Chario, Archaeological Resource Management Corp); 1991 (Charleton Jones, Archaeological Resource Management Corp); 1998 (R. Bissell, RMW Paleo Associates)	OR-01073, OR-01127, OR-01721, OR-02208

Appendix B

Sacred Lands File Search Results

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

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

October 21, 2024

Kholood Abdo
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Via Email to: kabdo@rinconconsultants.com

Re: Native American Tribal Consultation, Pursuant to the Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), Amendments to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014), Public Resources Code Sections 5097.94 (m), 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2 and 21084.3, Aliso Creek Lift Station Rehabilitation Project, Orange County

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 (c), attached is a consultation list of tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the above-listed project. Please note that the intent of the AB 52 amendments to CEQA is to avoid and/or mitigate impacts to tribal cultural resources, (Pub. Resources Code §21084.3 (a)) ("Public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource.")

Public Resources Code sections 21080.3.1 and 21084.3(c) require CEQA lead agencies to consult with California Native American tribes that have requested notice from such agencies of proposed projects in the geographic area that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the tribes on projects for which a Notice of Preparation or Notice of Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration has been filed on or after July 1, 2015. Specifically, Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 (d) provides:

Within 14 days of determining that an application for a project is complete or a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, the lead agency shall provide formal notification to the designated contact of, or a tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, which shall be accomplished by means of at least one written notification that includes a brief description of the proposed project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation pursuant to this section.

The AB 52 amendments to CEQA law does not preclude initiating consultation with the tribes that are culturally and traditionally affiliated within your jurisdiction prior to receiving requests for notification of projects in the tribe's areas of traditional and cultural affiliation. The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) recommends, but does not require, early consultation as a best practice to ensure that lead agencies receive sufficient information about cultural resources in a project area to avoid damaging effects to tribal cultural resources.

The NAHC also recommends, but does not require that agencies should also include with their notification letters, information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed on the area of potential effect (APE), such as:

1. The results of any record search that may have been conducted at an Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), including, but not limited to:

- A listing of any and all known cultural resources that have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE, such as known archaeological sites;
- Copies of any and all cultural resource records and study reports that may have been provided by the Information Center as part of the records search response;
- Whether the records search indicates a low, moderate, or high probability that unrecorded cultural resources are located in the APE; and
- If a survey is recommended by the Information Center to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.

2. The results of any archaeological inventory survey that was conducted, including:

    - Any report that may contain site forms, site significance, and suggested mitigation measures.

      All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum, and not be made available for public disclosure in accordance with Government Code section 6254.10.

3. The result of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission was positive. Please contact the Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes on the attached list for more information.

4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area including all or part of the APE; and

5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the APE.

Lead agencies should be aware that records maintained by the NAHC and CHRIS are not exhaustive and a negative response to these searches does not preclude the existence of a tribal cultural resource. A tribe may be the only source of information regarding the existence of a tribal cultural resource.

This information will aid tribes in determining whether to request formal consultation. In the event that they do, having the information beforehand will help to facilitate the consultation process.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our consultation list remains current.

If you have any questions, please contact me at my email address: Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Andrew Green

Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Orange County
10/21/2024

Tribe Name	Fed (F) Non-Fed (N)	Contact Person	Contact Address	Phone #	Fax #	Email Address	Cultural Affiliation	Counties	Last Updated
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	Anthony Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-5549		anthonymad2002@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	6/28/2023
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	Erica Schenk, Chairperson	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 590-0942	(951) 763-2808	chair@cahuilla-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	2/1/2024
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	BobbyRay Esparza, Cultural Director	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-5549		besparza@cahuilla-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	6/28/2023
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation	N	Andrew Salas, Chairperson	P.O. Box 393 Covina, CA, 91723	(844) 390-0787		admin@gabrielenoindians.org	Gabrieleno	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,Santa Barbara,Ventura	8/18/2023
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation	N	Christina Swindall Martinez, Secretary	P.O. Box 393 Covina, CA, 91723	(844) 390-0787		admin@gabrielenoindians.org	Gabrieleno	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,Santa Barbara,Ventura	8/18/2023
Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians	N	Anthony Morales, Chairperson	P.O. Box 693 San Gabriel, CA, 91778	(626) 483-3564	(626) 286-1262	GTTribalcouncil@aol.com	Gabrieleno	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,Santa Barbara,Ventura	12/4/2023
Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council	N	Robert Dorame, Chairperson	P.O. Box 490 Bellflower, CA, 90707	(562) 761-6417	(562) 761-6417	gtongva@gmail.com	Gabrielino	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,Santa Barbara,Ventura	3/16/2023
Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council	N	Christina Conley, Cultural Resource Administrator	P.O. Box 941078 Simi Valley, CA, 93094	(626) 407-8761		christina.marsden@alumni.usc.edu	Gabrielino	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,Santa Barbara,Ventura	3/16/2023
Gabrielino/Tongva Nation	N	Sandonne Goad, Chairperson	106 1/2 Judge John Aiso St., #231 Los Angeles, CA, 90012	(951) 807-0479		sgoad@gabrielino-tongva.com	Gabrielino	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,Santa Barbara,Ventura	3/28/2023
Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe	N	Sam Dunlap, Cultural Resource Director	P.O. Box 3919 Seal Beach, CA, 90740	(909) 262-9351		tongvatcr@gmail.com	Gabrielino	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,Santa Barbara,Ventura	5/30/2023
Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe	N	Charles Alvarez, Chairperson	23454 Vanowen Street West Hills, CA, 91307	(310) 403-6048		Chavez1956metro@gmail.com	Gabrielino	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,Santa Barbara,Ventura	5/30/2023
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians	N	Sonia Johnston, Chairperson	P.O. Box 25628 Santa Ana, CA, 92799			sonia.johnston@sbcglobal.net	Juaneno	Orange,Riverside,San Diego	
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation - Belardes	N	Joyce Perry, Cultural Resource Director	4955 Paseo Segovia Irvine, CA, 92603	(949) 293-8522		kaamalam@gmail.com	Juaneno	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	3/17/2023

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Orange County
10/21/2024

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation 84A	N	Heidi Lucero, Chairperson, THPO	31411-A La Matanza Street San Juan Capistrano, CA, 92675	(562) 879-2884		jbmian.chairwoman@gmail.com	Juaneno	Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	3/28/2023
La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Norma Contreras, Chairperson	22000 Highway 76 Pauma Valley, CA, 92061	(760) 742-3771			Luiseno	Orange,Riverside,San Diego	
Pala Band of Mission Indians	F	Christopher Nejo, Legal Analyst/Researcher	PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, CA, 92059	(760) 891-3564		cnejo@palatribe.com	Cupeno Luiseno	Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	11/27/2023
Pala Band of Mission Indians	F	Alexis Wallick, Assistant THPO	PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, CA, 92059	(760) 891-3537		awallick@palatribe.com	Cupeno Luiseno	Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	11/27/2023
Pala Band of Mission Indians	F	Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, CA, 92059	(760) 891-3515		sgaughen@palatribe.com	Cupeno Luiseno	Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	11/27/2023
Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Temet Aguilar, Chairperson	P.O. Box 369 Pauma Valley, CA, 92061	(760) 742-1289	(760) 742-3422	bennaecalac@aol.com	Luiseno	Orange,Riverside,San Diego	
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Steven Estrada, Tribal Chairman	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	sestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	4/8/2024
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	vminott@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	4/8/2024
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Jessica Valdez, Cultural Resource Specialist	P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581	(951) 663-6261	(951) 654-4198	jvaldez@soboba-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Luiseno	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	7/14/2023
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Joseph Ontiveros, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581	(951) 663-5279	(951) 654-4198	jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Luiseno	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	7/14/2023

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.

Record: PROJ-2024-005464
Report Type: AB52 GIS
Counties: Orange
NAHC Group: All

This list is only applicable for consultation with Native American tribes under Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 for the proposed Aliso Creek Lift Station Rehabilitation Project, Orange County.

Appendix C

Tribal Outreach Documentation

Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project Native American Outreach Correspondence

Contact List	Date Letter Sent	Date of Follow-up	Responses/Comments/Concerns
Cahuilla Band of Indians Anthony Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer 52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, California 92539 Phone: (951) 763-5549 anthonymad2002@gmail.com	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.
Cahuilla Band of Indians BobbyRay Esparza, Cultural Director 52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, California 92539 Phone: (951) 763-5549 besparza@cahuilla-nsn.gov	11/7/2024 – Via Email 11/11/2024 – Via Mail	11/20/2024 – Via Phone; 11/26/2024 – Via Phone	11/8/2024: Email delivery failed. 11/20/2024: Left a voicemail with the Cahuilla Band of Indians main office. 11/26/2024: Spoke with Serena at the main office who indicated BobbyRay, Anthony Madrigal or Erica Schenk, transferred to voicemail and left a voicemail. No response has been received to date.
Cahuilla Band of Indians Erica Schenk, Chairperson 52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, California 92539 Phone: (951) 590-0942 Fax: (951) 763-2808 chair@cahuilla-nsn.gov	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.
Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation Andrew Salas, Chairperson P.O. Box 393 Covina, California 91723 Phone: (844) 390-0787 admin@gabrielenoindians.org	11/7/2024 – Via Email		11/7/2024: Ms. Salas with the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation responded via email requesting the lead agencies contact information. Rincon responded with the appropriate contact info on 11/11/2024.
Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation Christina Swindall Martinez, Secretary	11/7/2024 – Via Email		See correspondence under Andrew Salas.

Contact List	Date Letter Sent	Date of Follow-up	Responses/Comments/Concerns
P.O. Box 393 Covina, California 91723 Phone: (844) 390-0787 admin@gabrielenoindians.org			
Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians Anthony Morales, Chairperson P.O. Box 693 San Gabriel, California 91778 Phone: (626) 483-3564 Fax: (626) 286-1262 GTTribalcouncil@aol.com	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.
Gabrielino/Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council Christina Conley, Cultural Resource Administrator P.O. Box 941078 Simi Valley, California 93094 Phone: (626) 407-8761 christina.marsden@alumni.usc.edu	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.
Gabrielino/Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council Robert Dorame, Chairperson P.O. Box 490 Bellflower, California 90707 Phone: (562) 761-6417 Fax: (562) 761-6417 gtongva@gmail.com	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.

Contact List	Date Letter Sent	Date of Follow-up	Responses/Comments/Concerns
Gabrielino/Tongva Nation Sandonne Goad, Chairperson 106 ½ Judge John Aiso Street #231 Los Angeles, California 90012 Phone: (951) 807-0479 sgoad@gabrielino-tongva.com	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.
Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe Sam Dunlap, Cultural Resource Director P.O. Box 3919 Seal Beach, California 90740 Phone: (909) 262-9351 tongvatcr@gmail.com	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.
Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe Charles Alvarez, Chairperson 23454 Vanowen Street West Hills, California 91307 Phone: (310) 403-6048 chavez1956metro@gmail.com	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.
Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Sonia Johnston, Chairperson P.O. Box 25628 Santa Ana, California 92799 Sonia.johnston@sbcglobal.net	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.
Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation - Belardes Joyce Perry, Cultural Resource Director 4955 Paseo Segovia Irvine, California 92603 Phone: (949) 293-8522 kaamalam@gmail.com	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.

Contact List	Date Letter Sent	Date of Follow-up	Responses/Comments/Concerns
Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – 84A Heidi Lucero, Chairperson, THPO 31411-A La Matanza Street San Juan Capistrano, California 92675 Phone: (562) 879-2884 jbmian.chairwoman@gmail.com	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.
La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians Norma Contreras, Chairperson 22000 Highway 76 Pauma Valley, California 92061 Phone: (760) 742-3771	11/7/2024 – Via Mail	11/20/2024 – Via Phone 11/26/2024 – Via Email to Wendy Schlater	**11/20/2024:** Spoke with Amber Nelson at the tribal office. Ms. Nelson indicated that Wendy Schlater is the new chairperson – wendy.schlater@lajolla-nsn.gov. Rincon emailed Chairperson Schlater. No response has been received to date.
Pala Band of Mission Indians Christopher Nejo, Legal Analyst/Researcher PMB 50 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, California 92059 Phone: (760) 891-3564 cnejo@palatribe.com	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	**11/7/2024:** Read receipt received. No response has been received to date.
Pala Band of Mission Indians Alexis Wallick, Assistant THPO PMB 50 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, California 92059 Phone: (760) 891-3537 awallick@palatribe.com	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.
Pala Band of Mission Indians Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer PMB 50 35008 Pala Temecula Road Pala, California 92059	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	**11/7/2024:** Read receipt received. No response has been received to date.

Phone: (760) 891-3515 sgaughen@palatribe.com			
Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians Temet Aguilar, Chairperson P.O. Box 369 Pauma Valley, California 92061 Phone: (760) 742-1289 Fax: (762) 742-3422 bennaecalac@aol.com	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator P.O. Box 391820 Anza, California 92539 Phone: (951) 659-2700 Fax: (951) 659-2228 vminott@santarosa-nsn.gov	11/7/2024 – Via Email		11/7/2024: Ms. Minott responded via email and indicated the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians defers any comments to the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians cultural resource department.
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians Steven Estrada, Tribal Chairman P.O. Box 391820 Anza, California 92539 Phone: (951) 659-2700 Fax: (951) 659-2228 sestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov	11/7/2024 – Via Email		11/7/2024: Read receipt received. 11/14/2024: Mr. Estrada responded via email indicating the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians has no specific concerns related to this project.
Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians Jessica Valdez, Cultural Resource Specialist P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, California 92581 Phone: (951) 663-6261 Fax: (951) 654-4198 jvaldez@soboba-nsn.gov	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.

Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians Joseph Ontiveros, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, California 92581 Phone: (951) 663-5279 Fax: (951) 654-4198 jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov	11/7/2024 – Via Email	11/20/2024 – Via Email; 11/26/2024 – Via Email	No response has been received to date.

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians
Temet Aguilar, Chairperson
P.O. Box 369
Pauma Valley, California 92061
Via email: bennaecalac@aol.com

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Chairperson Aguilar:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

The project involves demolition of several components within the existing lift station (including the electrical building, access driveway and gate, and various piping and electrical components, abandonment of the existing wet well in place, conversion of the existing dry pit into emergency storage, relocation of several components within the existing lift station (e.g., emergency bypass pump), reconfiguration of electrical equipment, and replacement of the existing emergency generator and existing masonry block wall along the southeast boundary. The project also includes construction of a new 12-foot-diameter, 40-foot-deep wet well and a 15-foot-tall, 250-square-foot electrical building. Additionally, two emergency discharge manholes, a new connection to the downstream force main, and a new access driveway and gate would be installed. The project also involves removal of approximately 15 trees and planting of approximately three new trees.

A search of the California Historical Resources Information System was conducted on October 3, 2024. The records search did not identify any prehistoric sites, sacred sites, and/or traditional cultural properties within or adjacent to the project site. On October 21, 2024, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File for the project was returned with positive results and a request to contact the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes for further information.

The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Act (CEQA), with the District acting as lead agency under CEQA. The District intends to pursue Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Funding. Therefore, the project may also be subject to review under Title 54 United States Code Section 306108, commonly known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and its implementing regulations found at 36 Code of Federal

Regulations Section 800. Construction is anticipated to begin July 2026 and be completed in December 2027, depending on grant funding.

As a component of the Cultural Resources Assessment being prepared for this project, Rincon is reaching out to you to request your input regarding the potential presence of cultural resources in the project area or its vicinity. This outreach is for informational purposes only, and all responses will be documented in our technical report. If you or your organization has knowledge of historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed project, please contact Andrea Ogaz at Rincon Consultants Inc. at aogaz@rinconconsultants.com. We respectfully request a response to this letter within 14 calendar days of receipt. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Andrea Ogaz MA, RPA
Archaeologist/Project Manager

Attachments

Attachment 1 Project Location Map and Project Site Map

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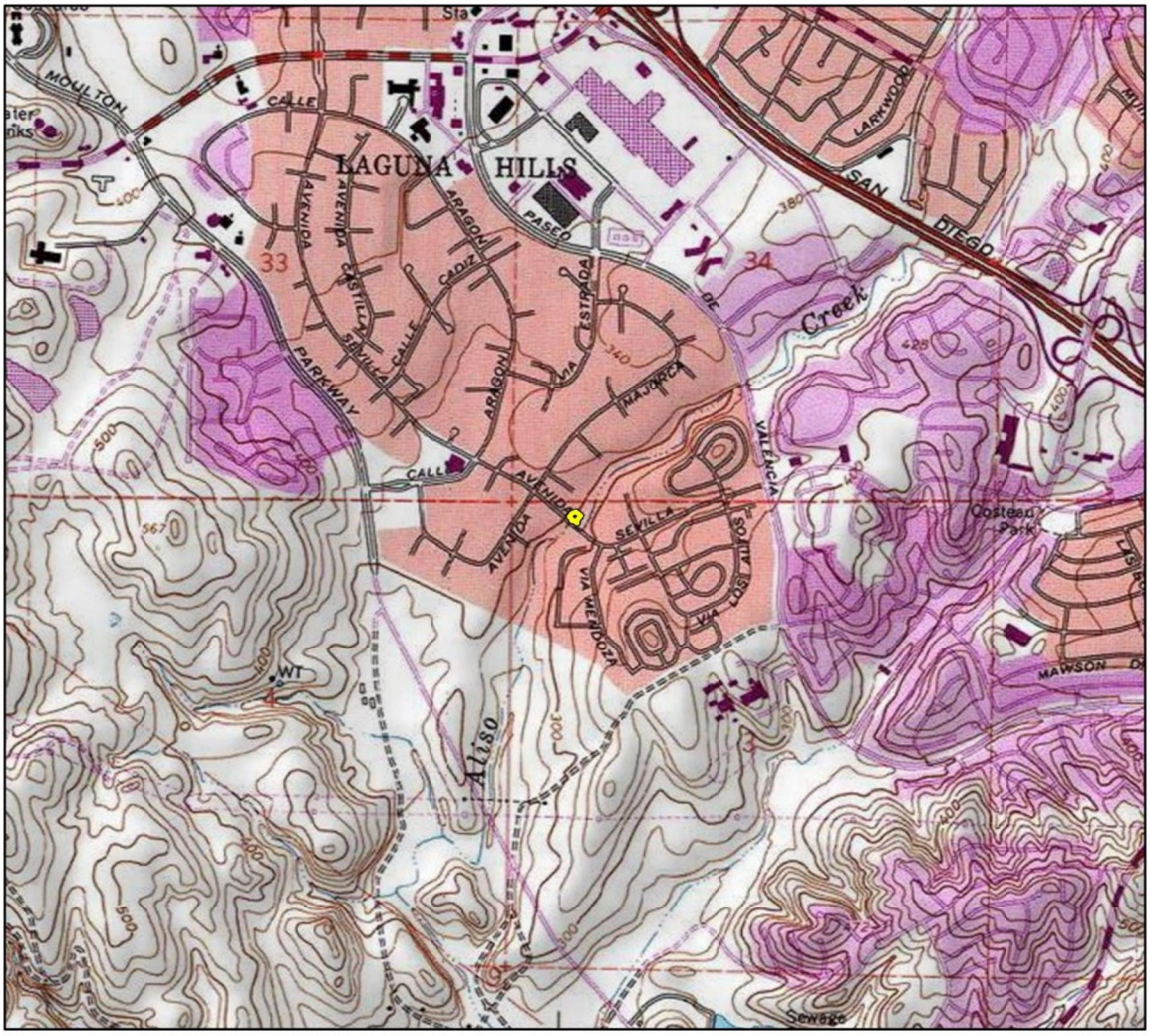
Figure 1 Project Location Map



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Project Location

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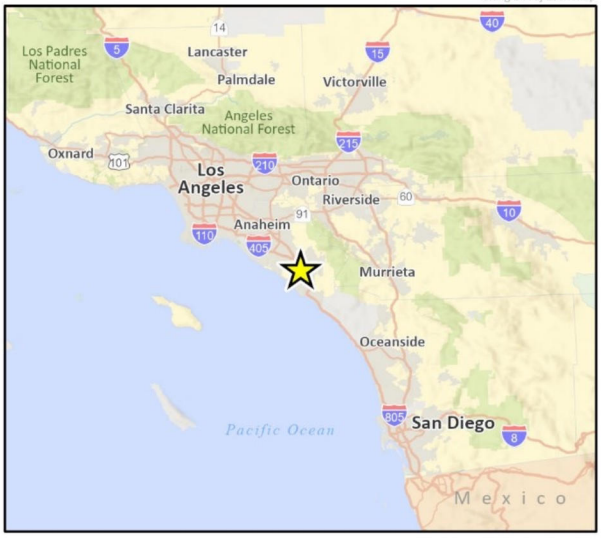

Figure 2 Project Site Map

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe
Charles Alvarez, Chairperson
23454 Vanowen Street
West Hills, California 91307
Via email: chavez1956metro@gmail.com

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Chairperson Alvarez:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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A search of the California Historical Resources Information System was conducted on October 3, 2024. The records search did not identify any prehistoric sites, sacred sites, and/or traditional cultural properties within or adjacent to the project site. On October 21, 2024, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File for the project was returned with positive results and a request to contact the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes for further information.

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Andrea Ogaz MA, RPA
Archaeologist/Project Manager

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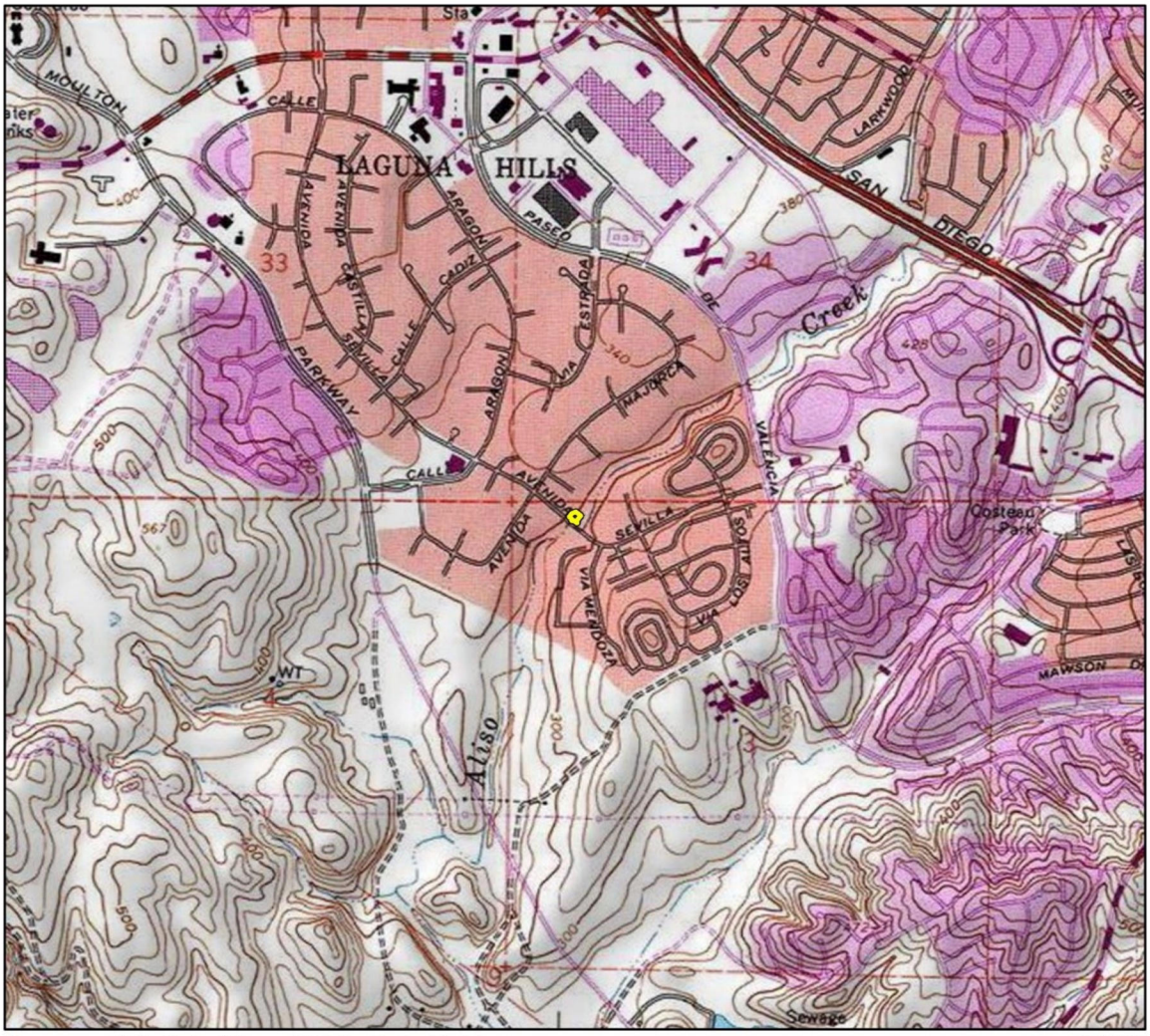

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Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

N

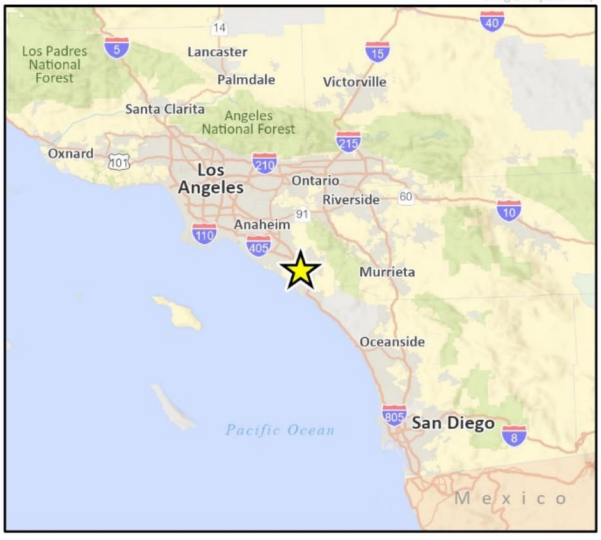

Figure 2 Project Site Map

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Gabrielino/Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council
Christina Conley, Cultural Resource Administrator
P.O. Box 941078
Simi Valley, California 93094
Via email: christina.marsden@alumni.usc.edu

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Ms. Conley:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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A search of the California Historical Resources Information System was conducted on October 3, 2024. The records search did not identify any prehistoric sites, sacred sites, and/or traditional cultural properties within or adjacent to the project site. On October 21, 2024, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File for the project was returned with positive results and a request to contact the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes for further information.

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Sincerely,
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Andrea Ogaz MA, RPA
Archaeologist/Project Manager

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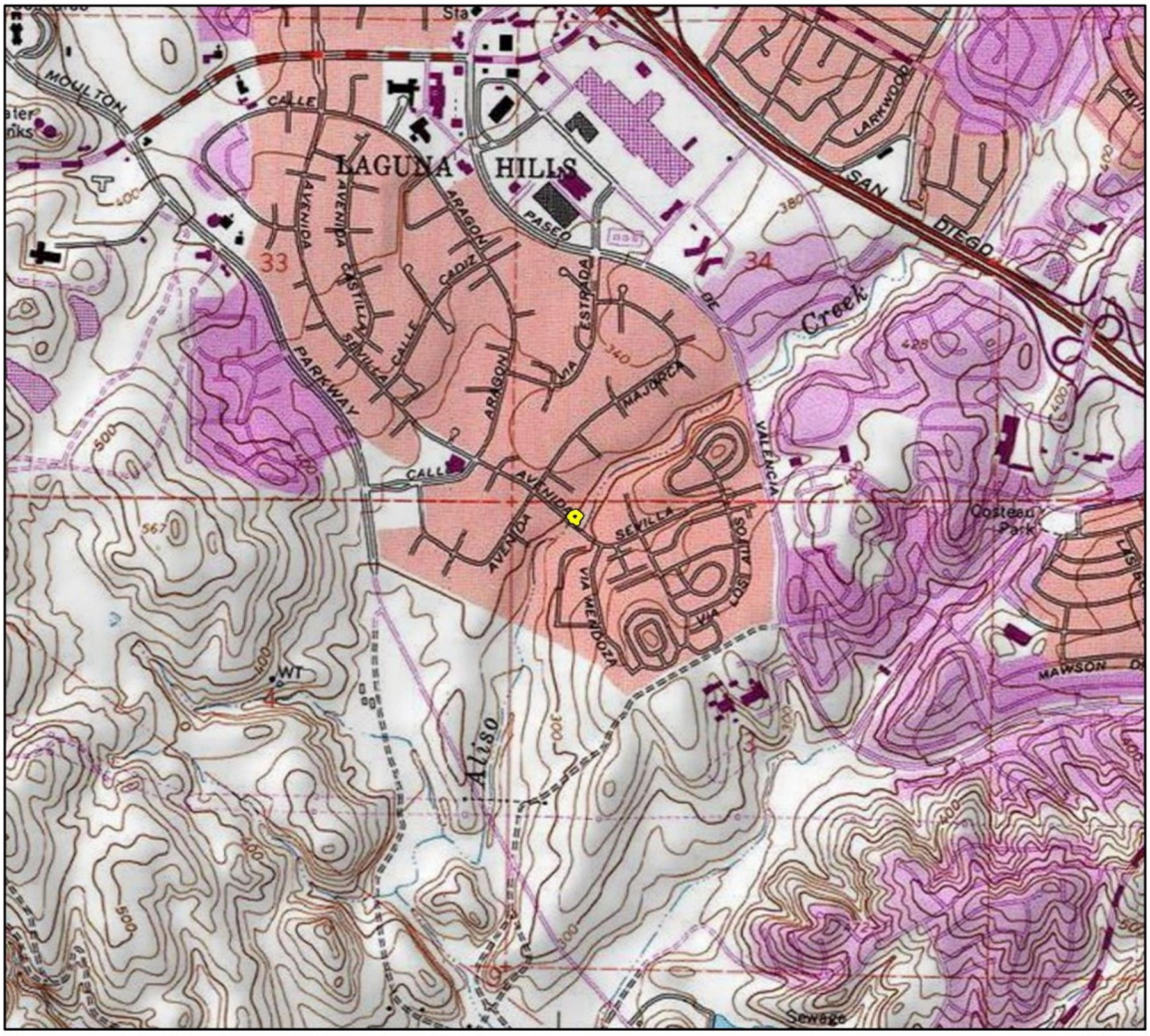

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Project Location

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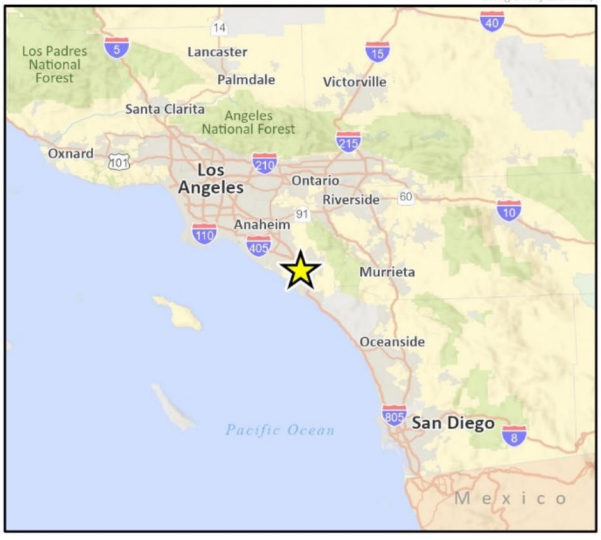
N



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Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Gabrielino/Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council
Robert Dorame, Chairperson
P.O. Box 490
Bellflower, California 90707
Via email: gtongva@gmail.com

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Chairperson Dorame:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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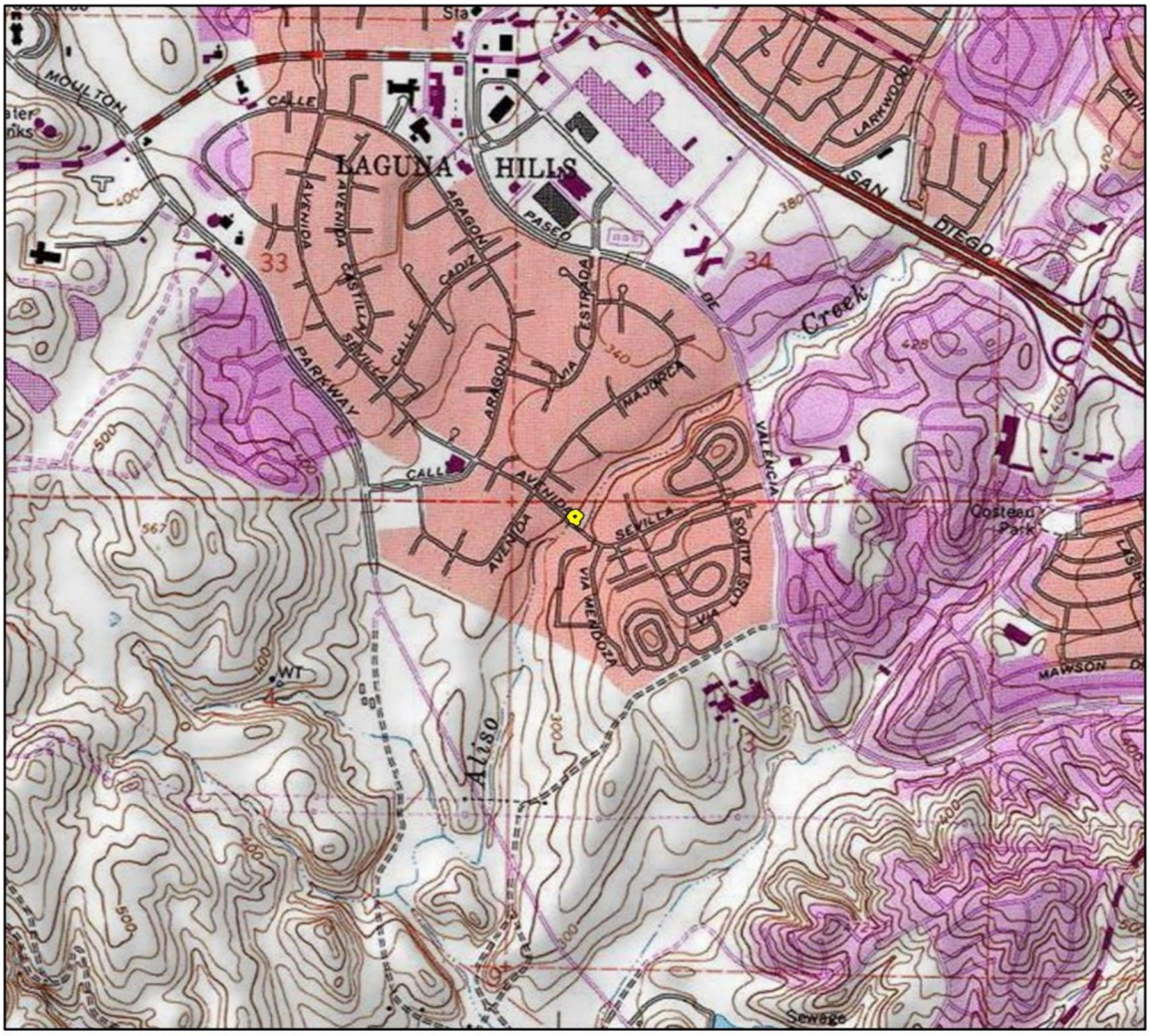

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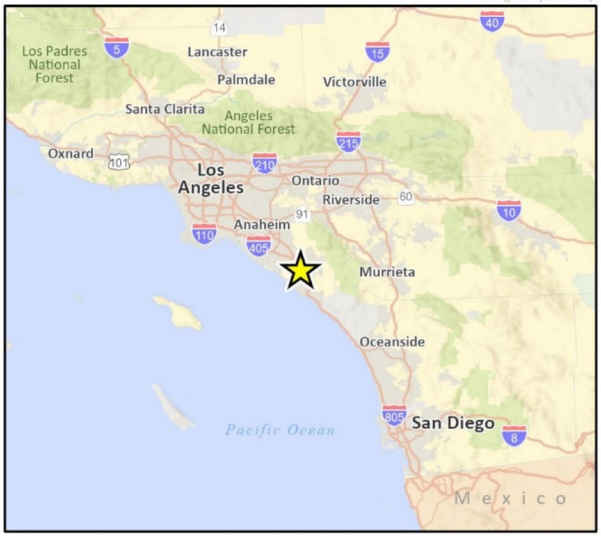

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Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe
Sam Dunlap, Cultural Resource Director
P.O. Box 3919
Seal Beach, California 90740
Via email: tongvatcr@gmail.com

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Mr. Dunlap:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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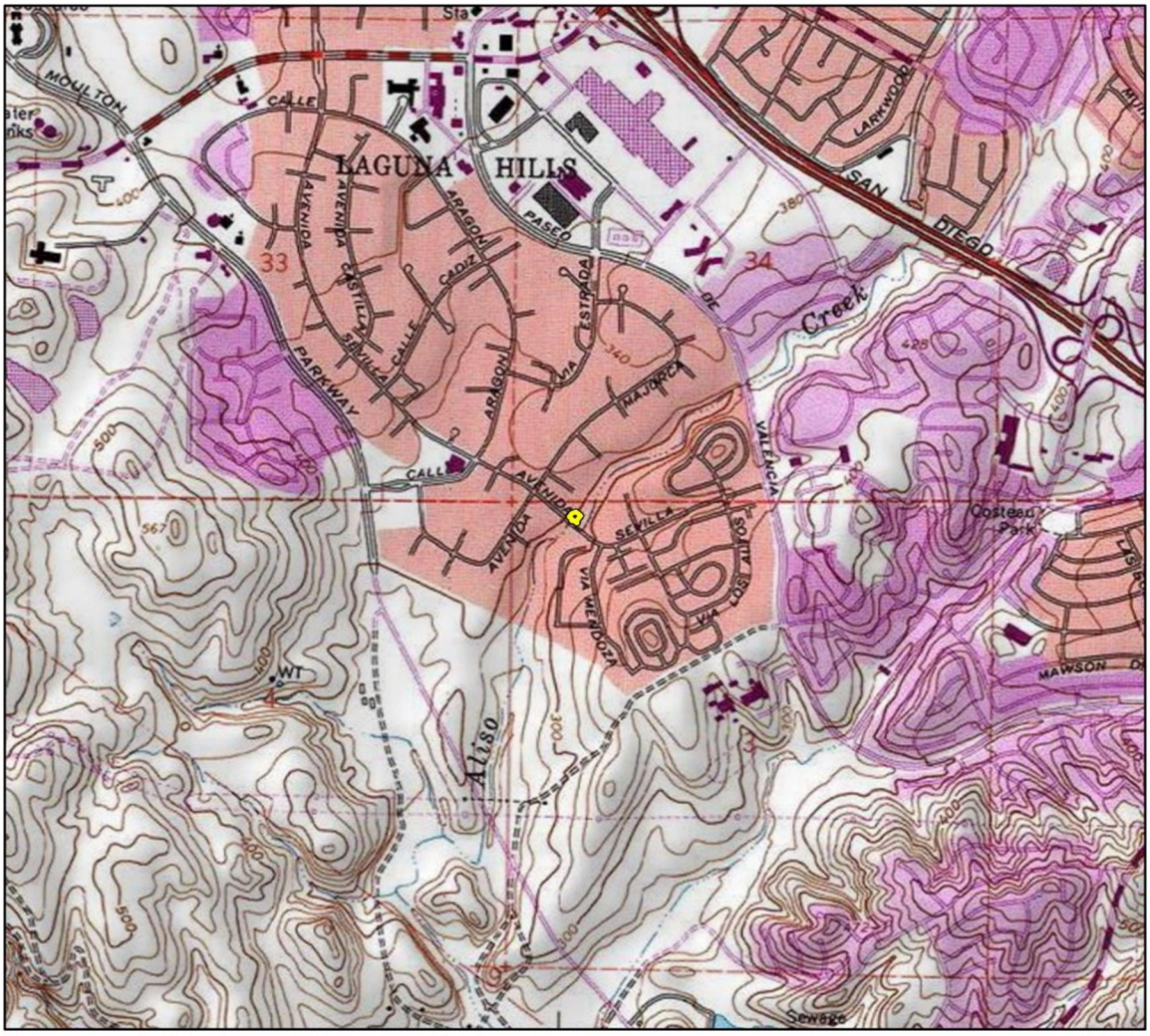

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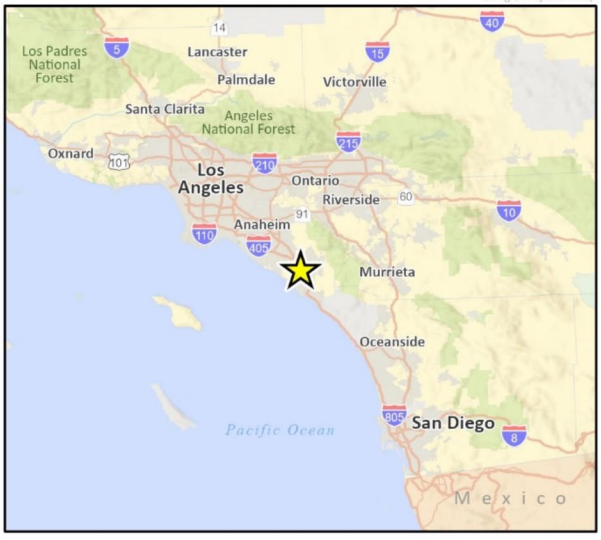

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Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Cahuilla Band of Indians
BobbyRay Esparza, Cultural Director
52701 CA Highway 371
Anza, California 92539
Via email: besparza@cahulla-nsn.gov

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Mr. Esparza:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Andrea Ogaz MA, RPA
Archaeologist/Project Manager

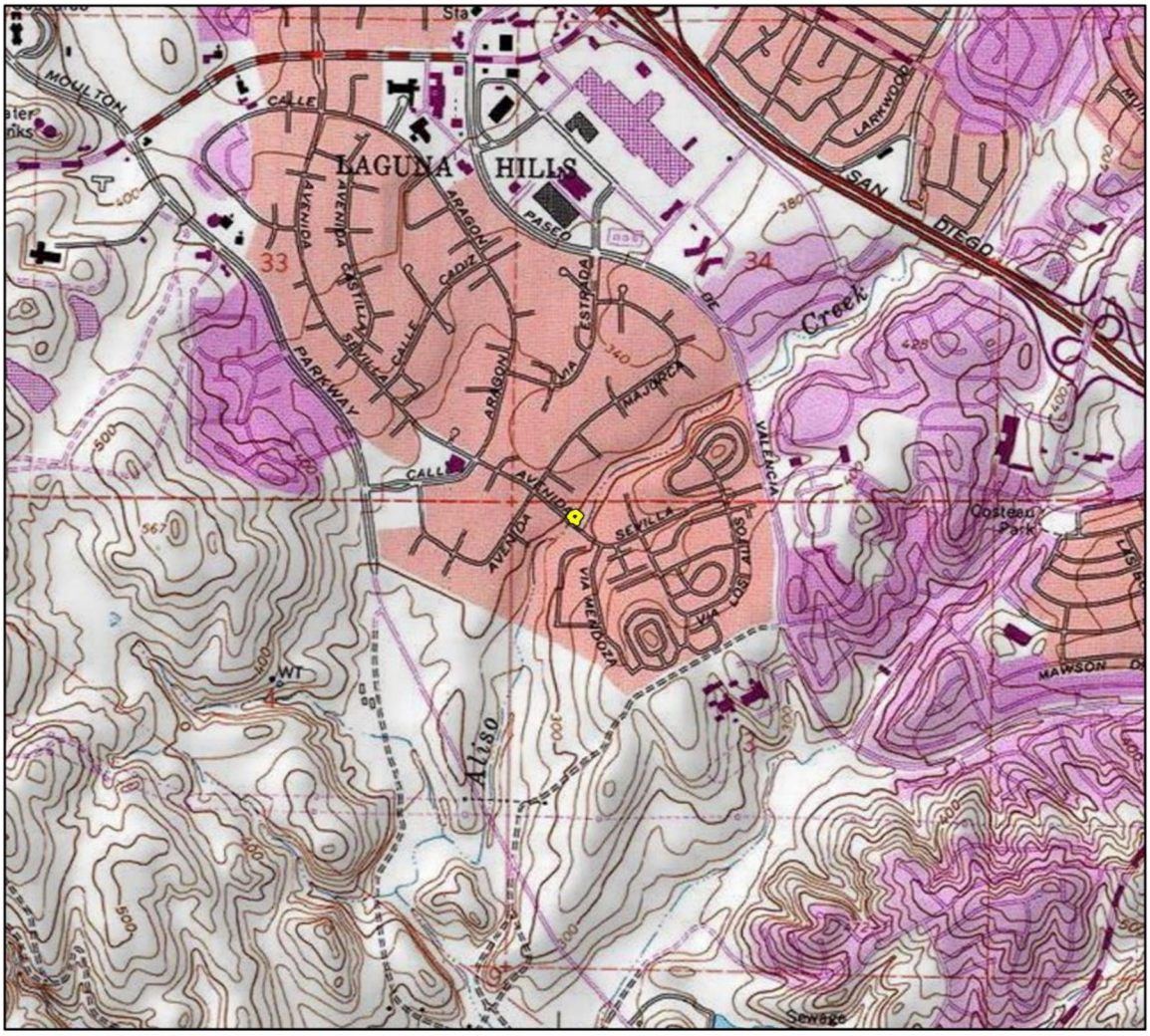
Attachments

Attachment 1 Project Location Map and Project Site Map

Attachment 1

Project Location Map and Project Site Map

Figure 1 Project Location Map



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Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

N

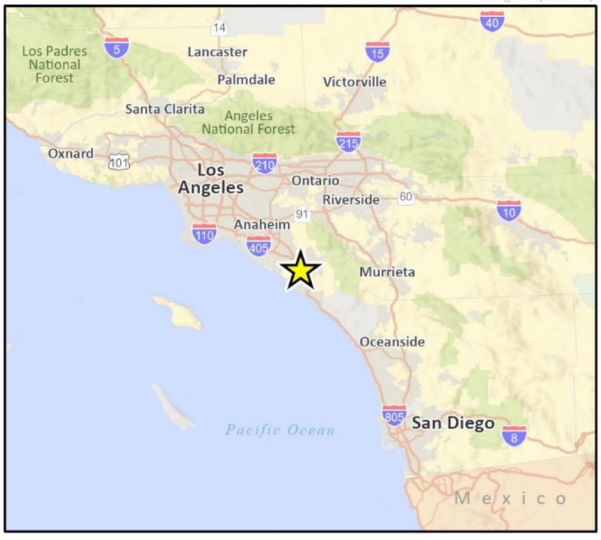

Figure 2 Project Site Map

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City, State, ZIP+4® Anza, CA 92539

PS Form 3800, April 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9047 See Reverse for Instructions

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
Steven Estrada, Tribal Chairman
P.O. Box 391820
Anza, California 92539
Via email: sestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Chairman Estrada:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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A search of the California Historical Resources Information System was conducted on October 3, 2024. The records search did not identify any prehistoric sites, sacred sites, and/or traditional cultural properties within or adjacent to the project site. On October 21, 2024, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File for the project was returned with positive results and a request to contact the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes for further information.

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Andrea Ogaz MA, RPA
Archaeologist/Project Manager

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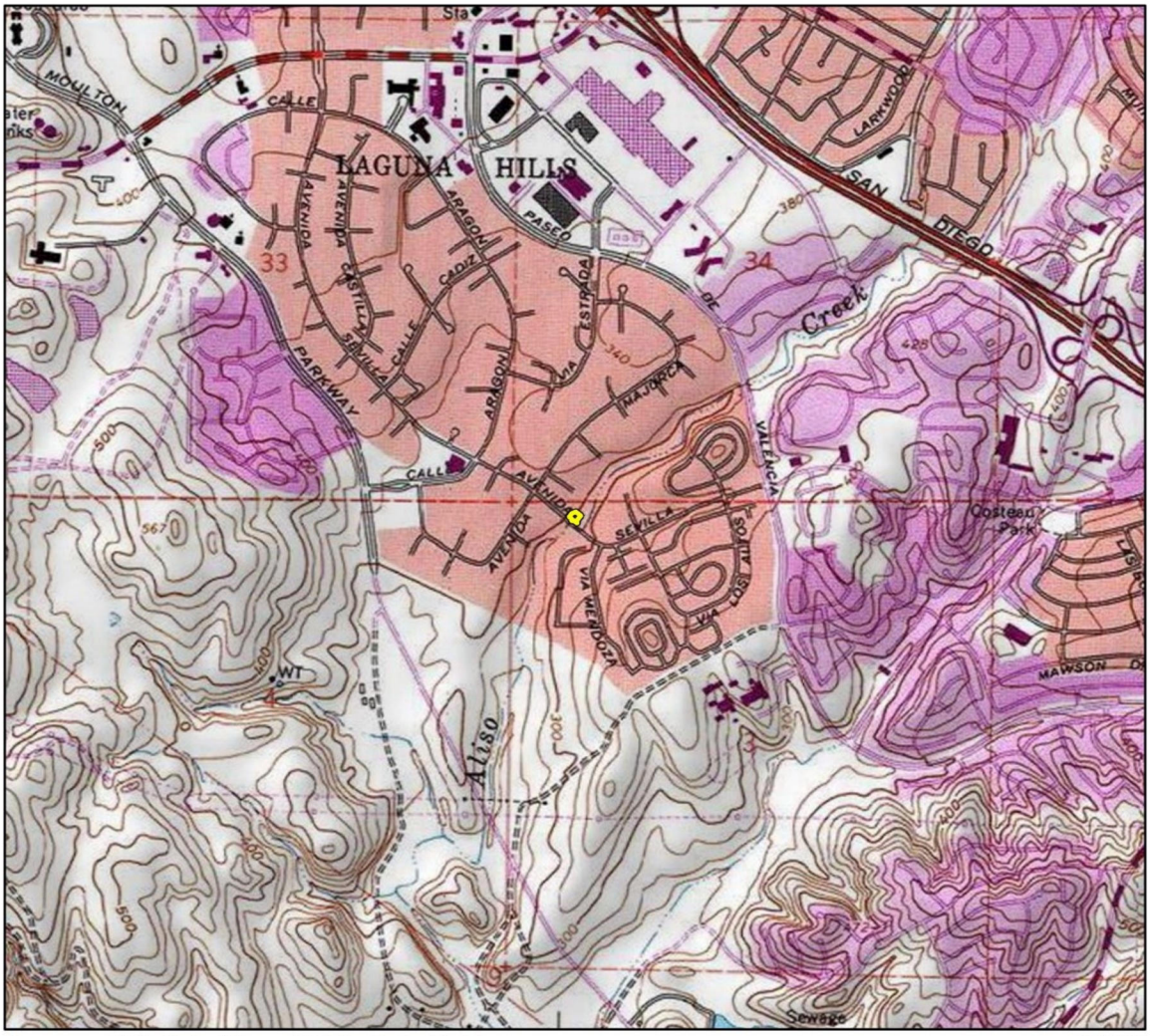

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Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

N

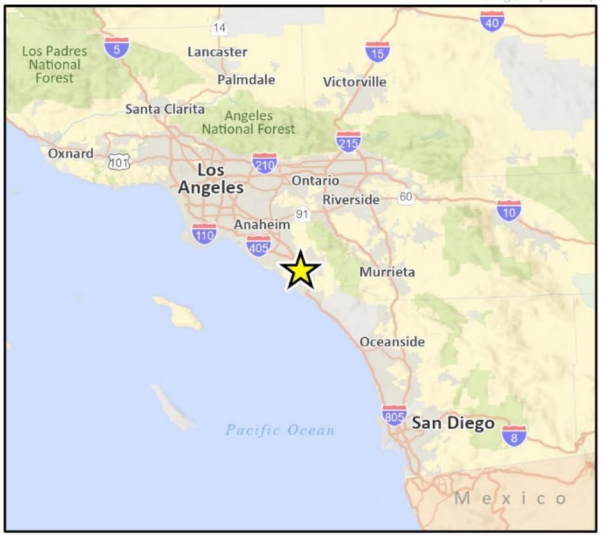

Figure 2 Project Site Map

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Pala Band of Mission Indians
Shasta Gaughen, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
PMB 50
35008 Pala Temecula Road
Pala, California 92059
Via email: sgaughen@palatribe.com

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Ms. Gaughen:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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A search of the California Historical Resources Information System was conducted on October 3, 2024. The records search did not identify any prehistoric sites, sacred sites, and/or traditional cultural properties within or adjacent to the project site. On October 21, 2024, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File for the project was returned with positive results and a request to contact the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes for further information.

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Archaeologist/Project Manager

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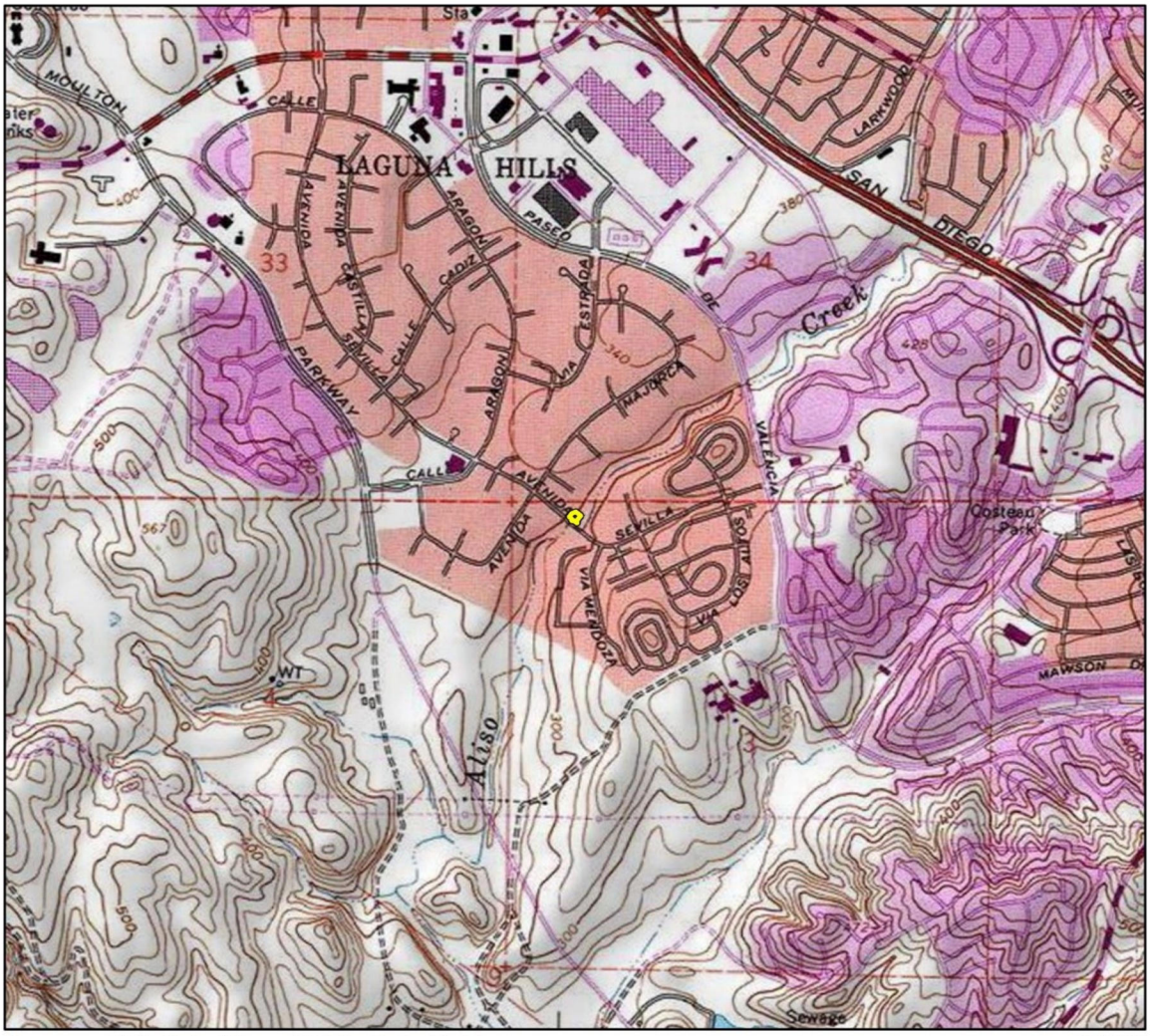

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Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

N

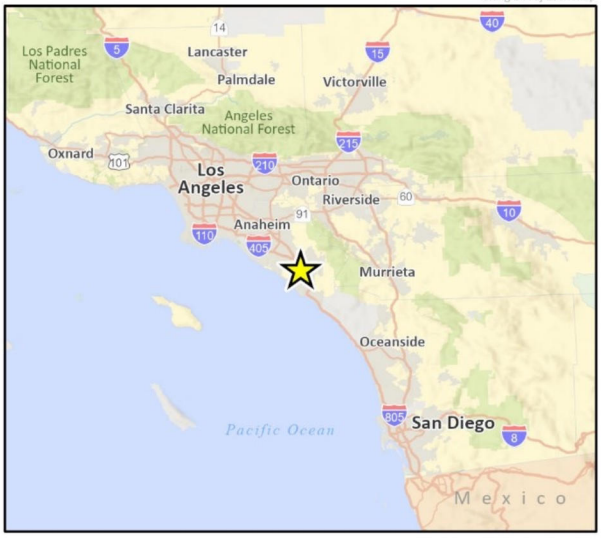

Figure 2 Project Site Map

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Gabrielino/Tongva Nation
Sandonne Goad, Chairperson
106 ½ Judge John Aiso Street #231
Los Angeles, California 90012
Via email: sgoad@gabrielino-tongva.com

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Chairperson Goad:

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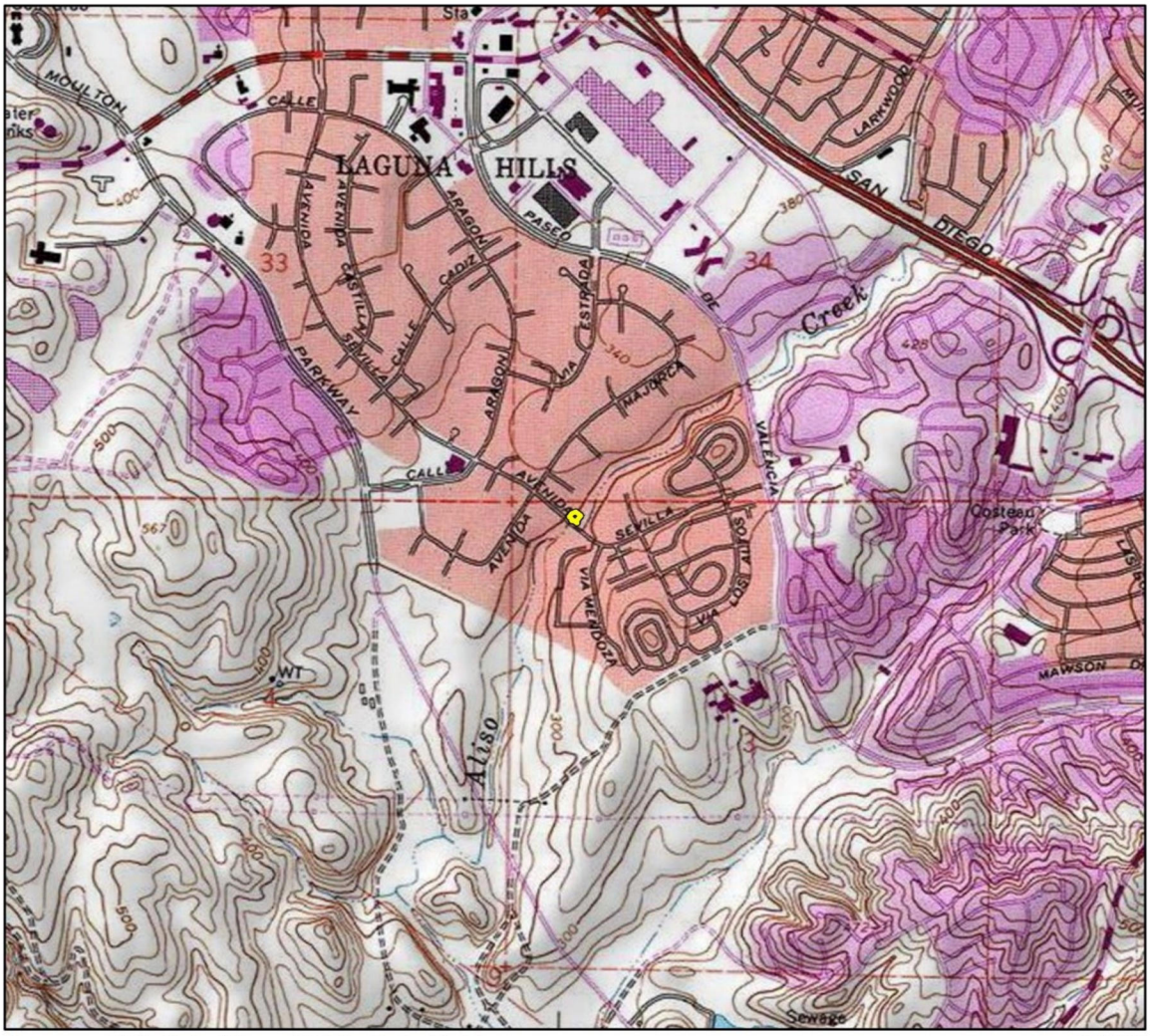

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Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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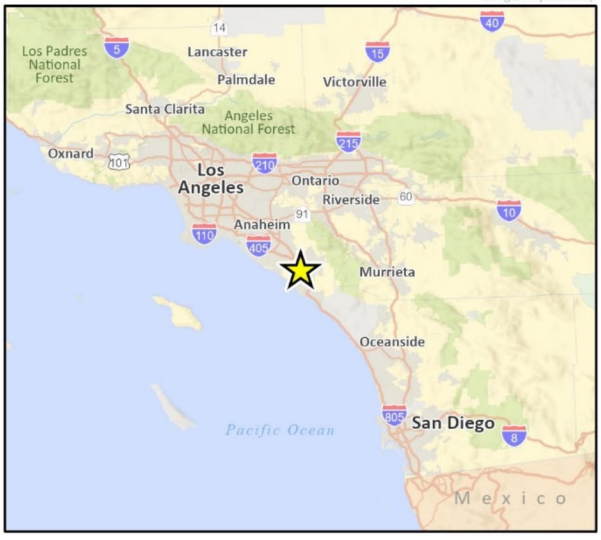

Figure 2 Project Site Map

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Juaneño Band of Mission Indians
Sonia Johnston, Chairperson
P.O. Box 25628
Santa Ana, California 92799
Via email: Sonia.johnston@sbcglobal.net

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Chairperson Johnston:

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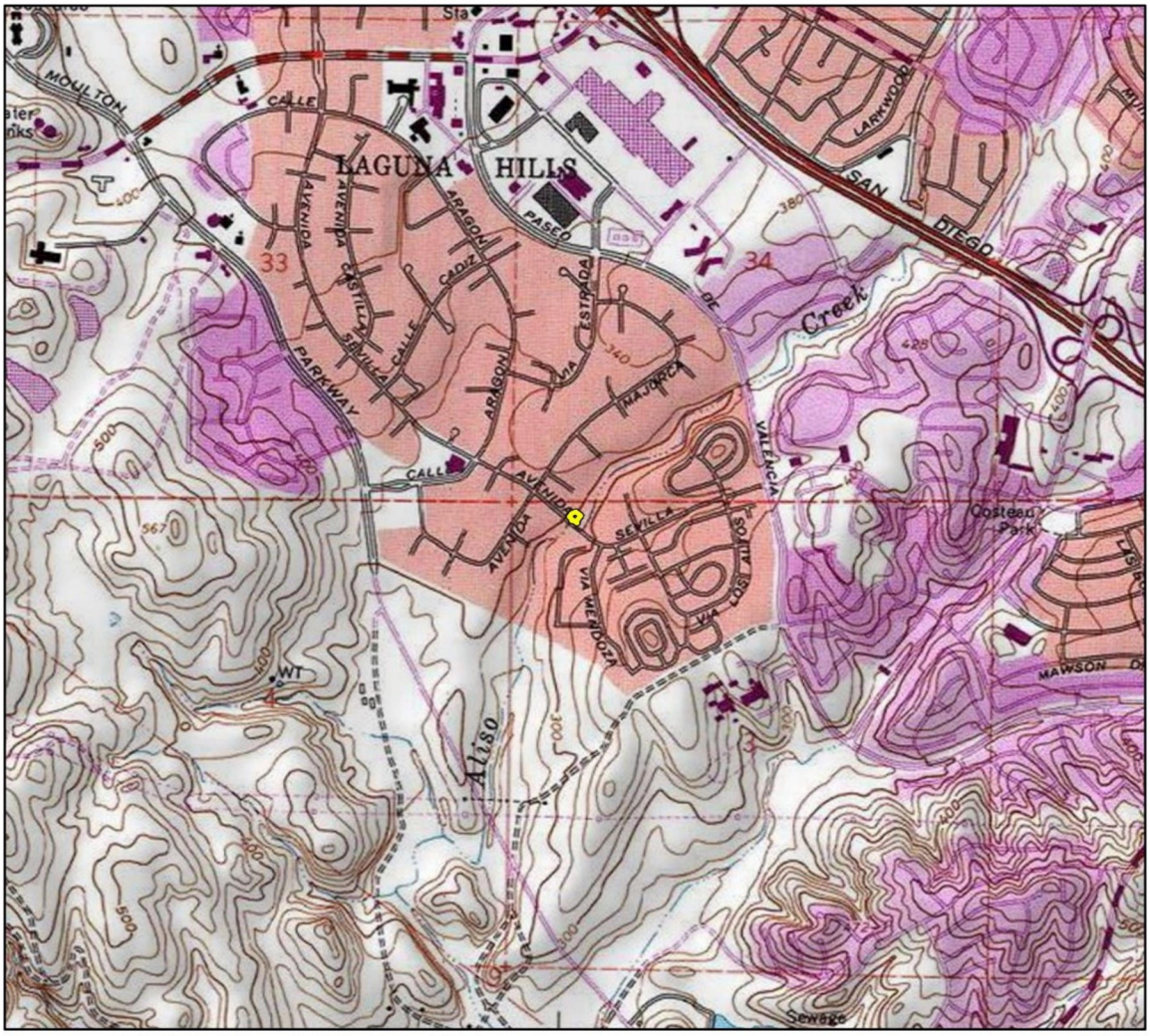

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Project Location

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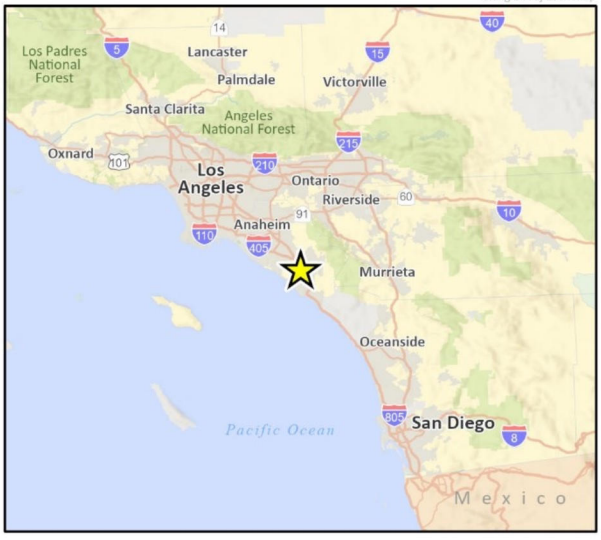

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Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Cahuilla Band of Indians
Anthony Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
52701 CA Highway 371
Anza, California 92539
Via email: anthonymad2002@gmail.com

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Mr. Madrigal:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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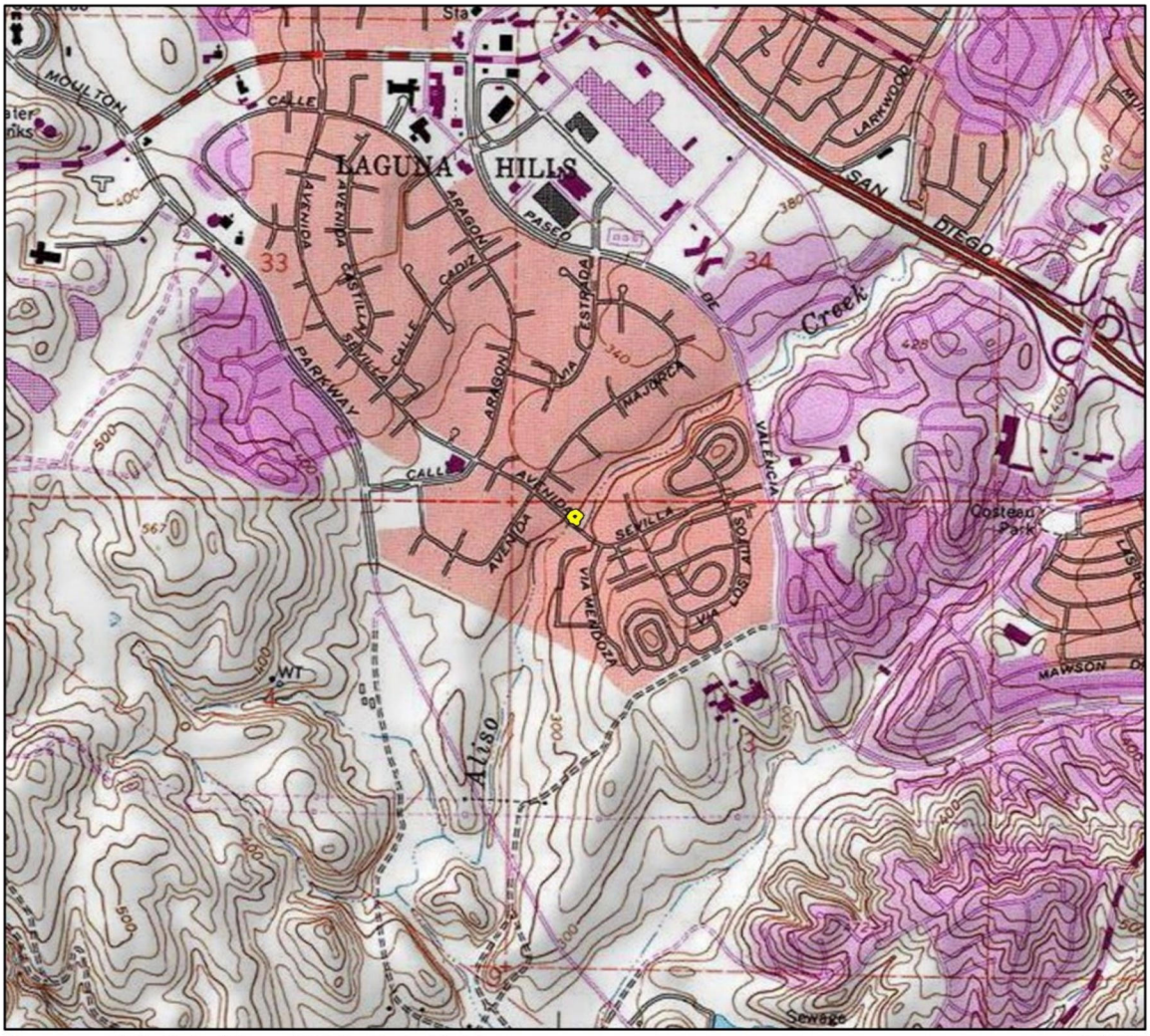

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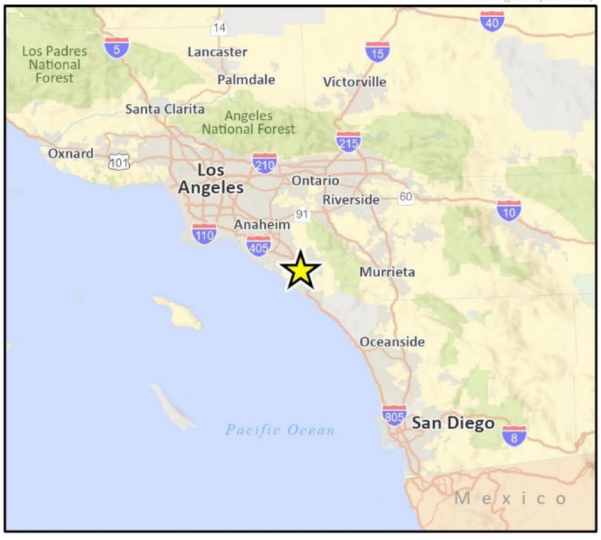

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250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
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213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator
P.O. Box 391820
Anza, California 92539
Via email: vminott@santarosa-nsn.gov

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Ms. Minott:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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A search of the California Historical Resources Information System was conducted on October 3, 2024. The records search did not identify any prehistoric sites, sacred sites, and/or traditional cultural properties within or adjacent to the project site. On October 21, 2024, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File for the project was returned with positive results and a request to contact the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes for further information.

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Andrea Ogaz MA, RPA
Archaeologist/Project Manager

Attachments

Attachment 1 Project Location Map and Project Site Map

Attachment 1

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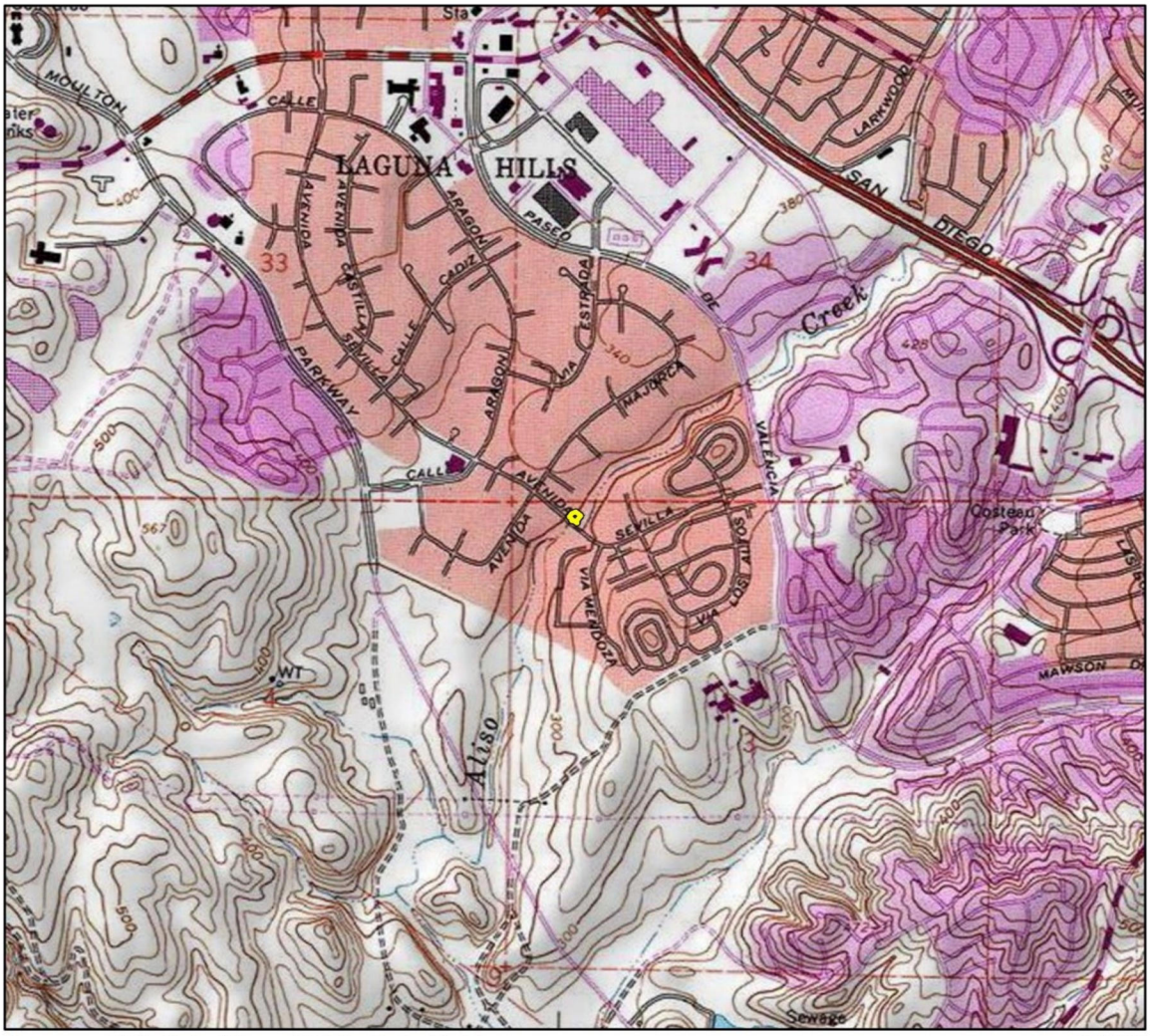
Figure 1 Project Location Map



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Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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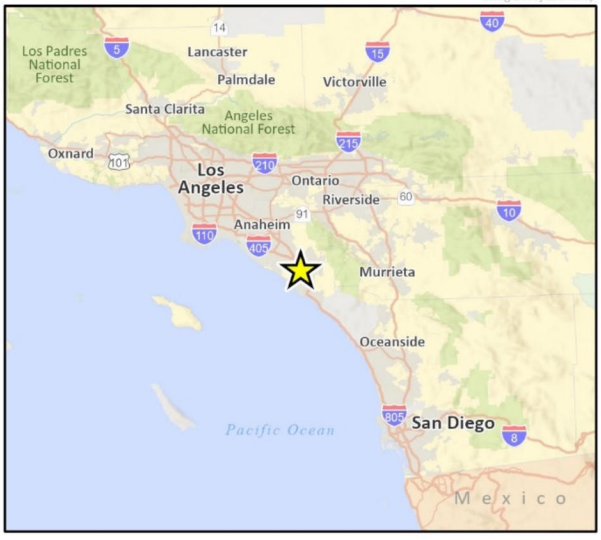

Figure 2 Project Site Map

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
Anthony Morales, Chairperson
P.O. Box 693
San Gabriel, California 91778
Via email: GTTribalcouncil@aol.com

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Chairperson Morales:

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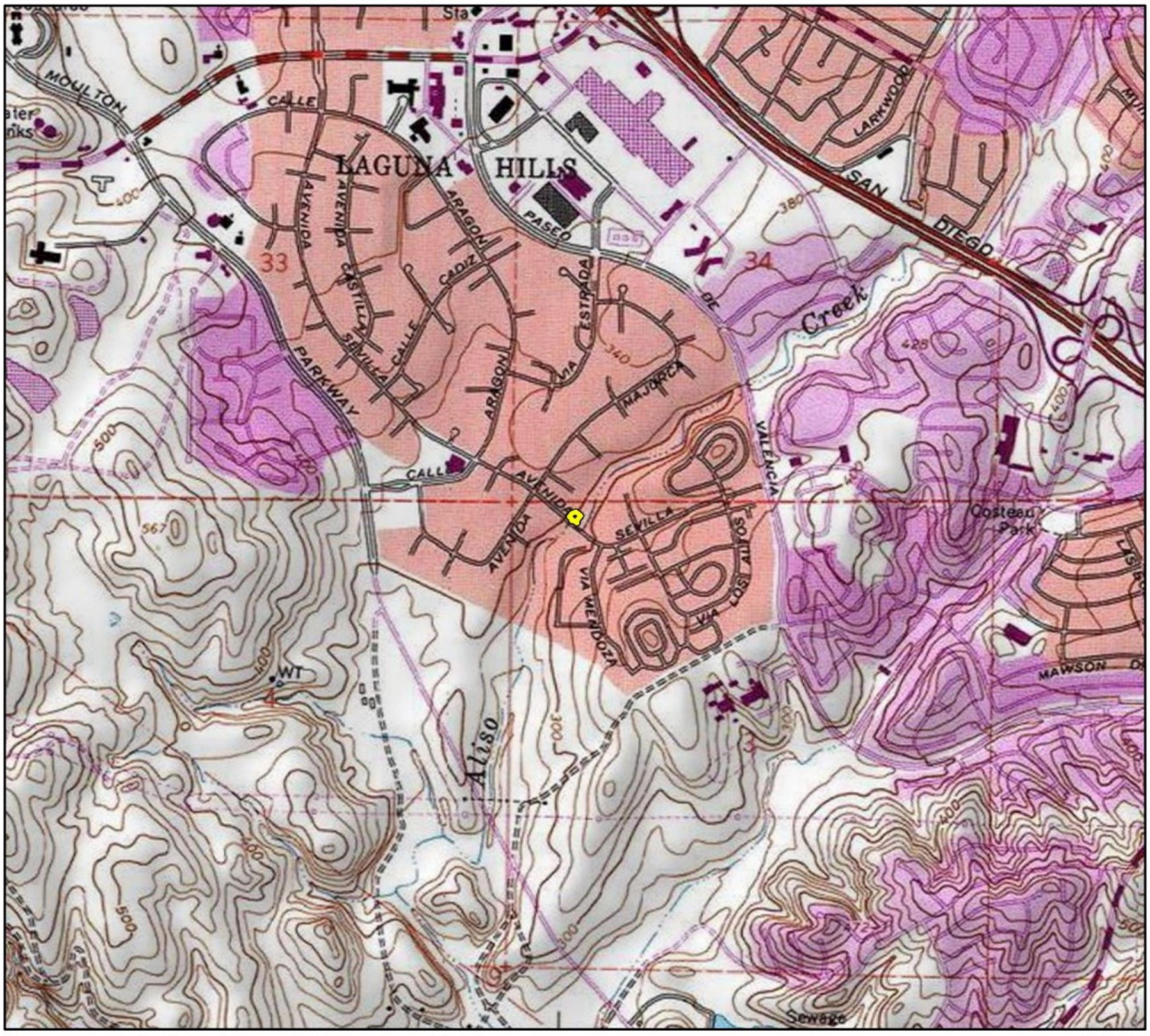

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Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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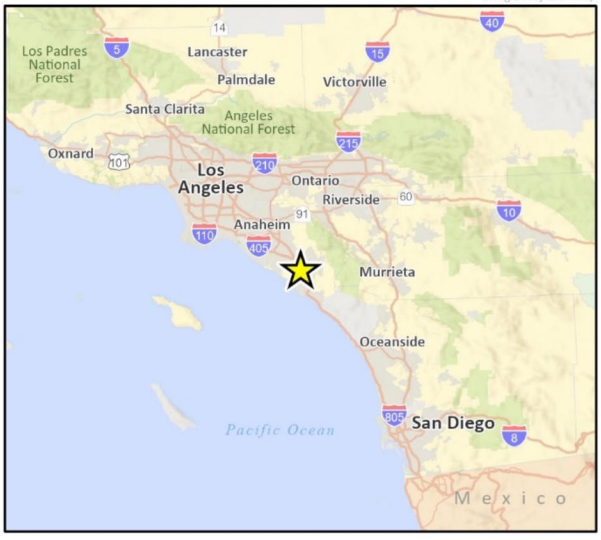

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Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Pala Band of Mission Indians
Christopher Nejo, Legal Analyst/Researcher
PMB 50
35008 Pala Temecula Road
Pala, California 92059
Via email: cnejo@palatribe.com

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Mr. Nejo:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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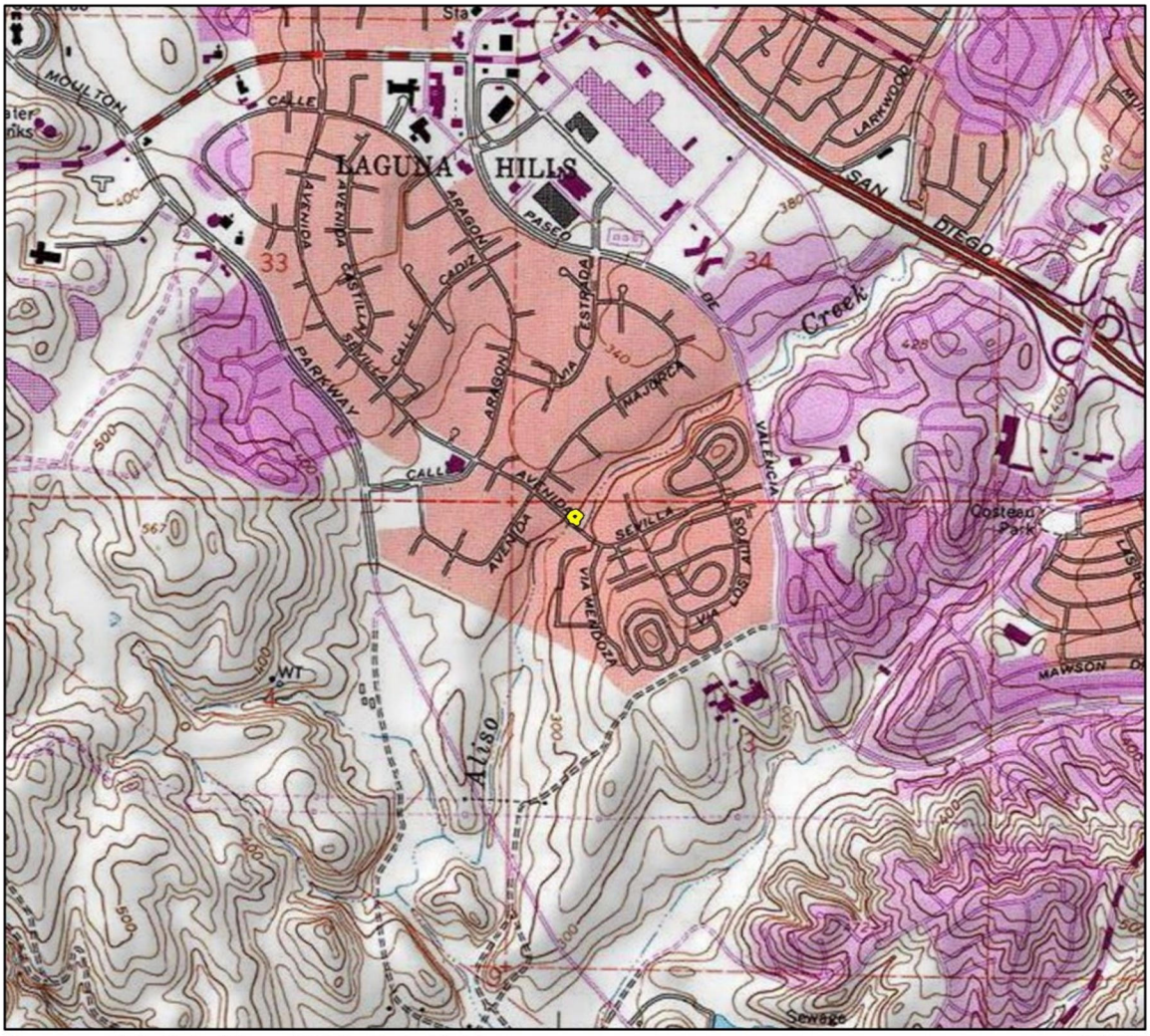

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Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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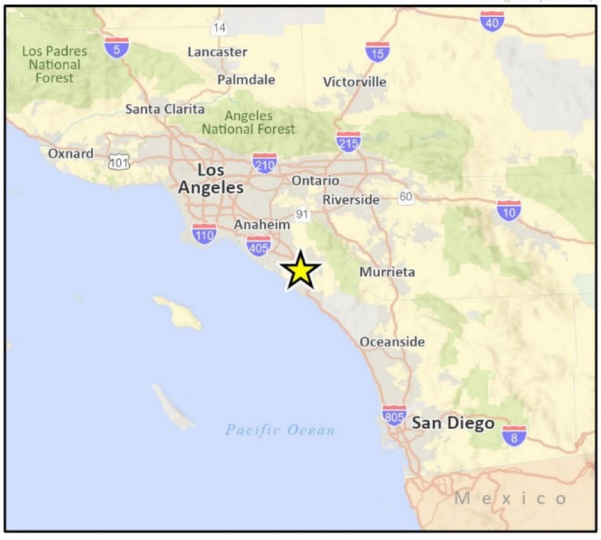

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Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians
Joseph Ontiveros, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 487
San Jacinto, California 92581
Via email: jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Mr. Ontiveros:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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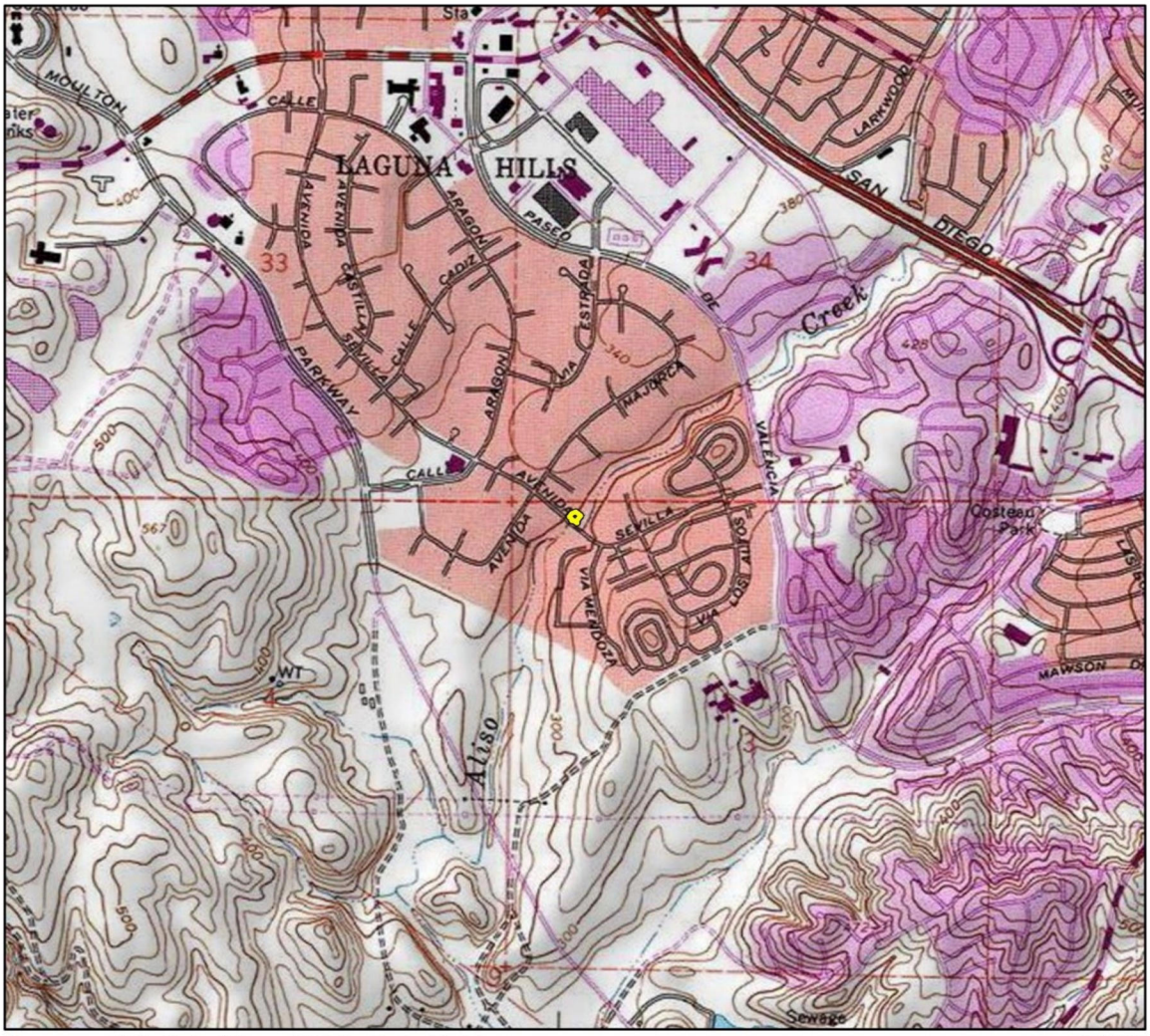

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Project Location

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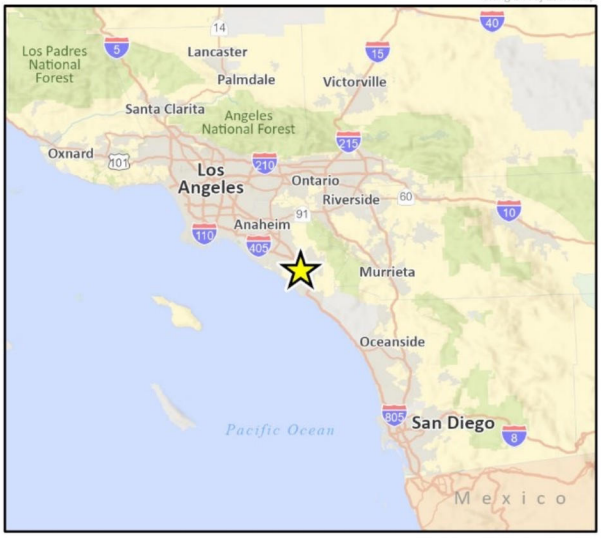

Figure 2 Project Site Map

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes
Joyce Perry, Cultural Resource Director
4955 Paseo Segovia
Irvine, California 92603
Via email: kaamalam@gmail.com

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Ms. Perry:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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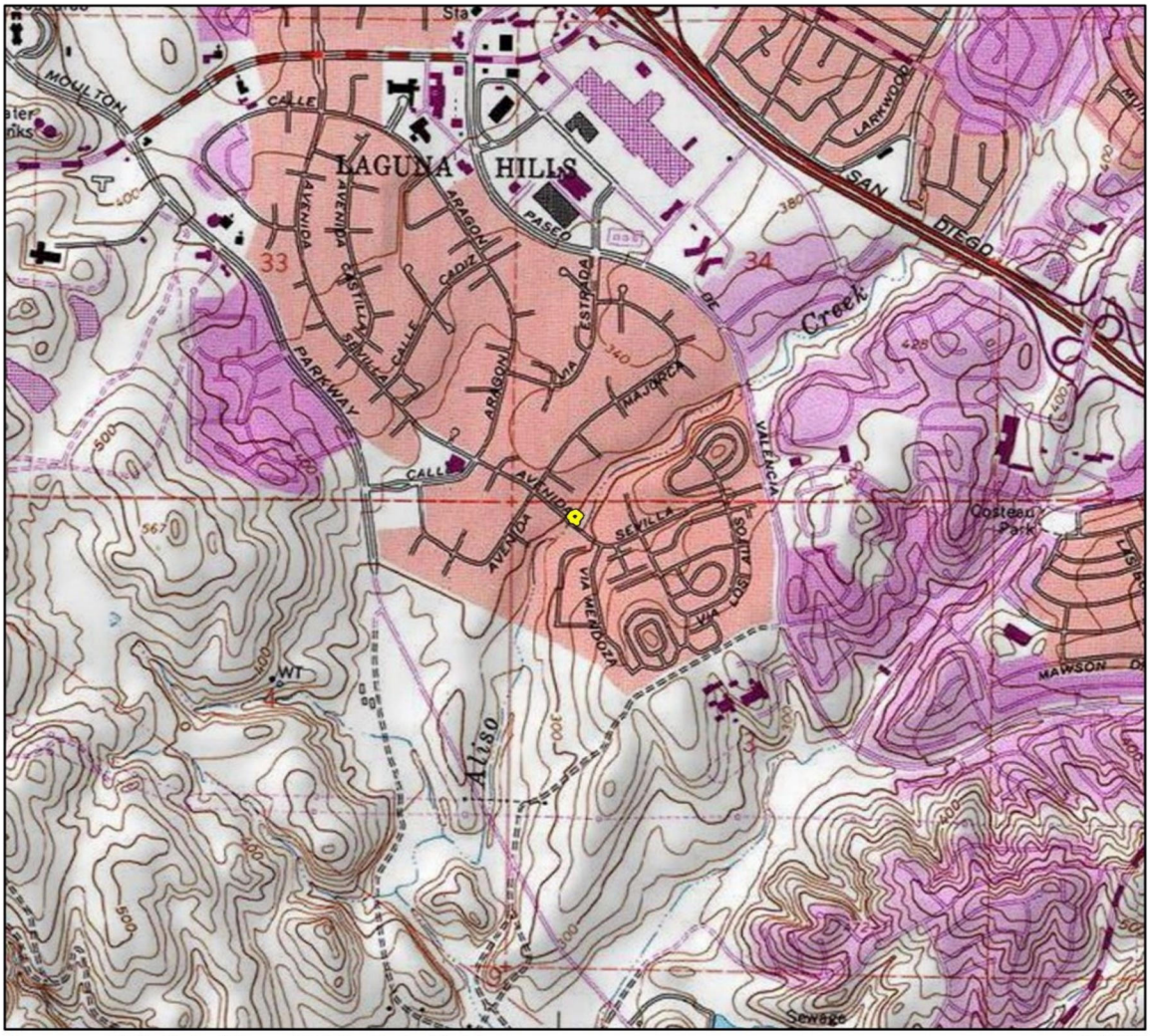

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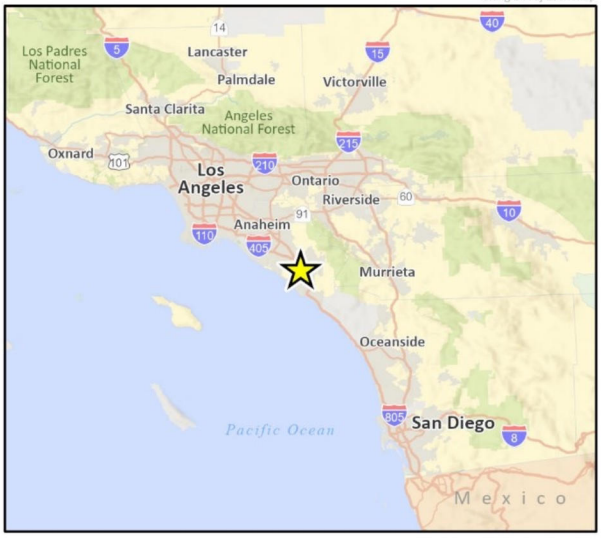

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Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation
Andrew Salas, Chairperson
P.O. Box 393
Covina, California 91723
Via email: admin@gabrielinoindians.org

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Chairperson Salas

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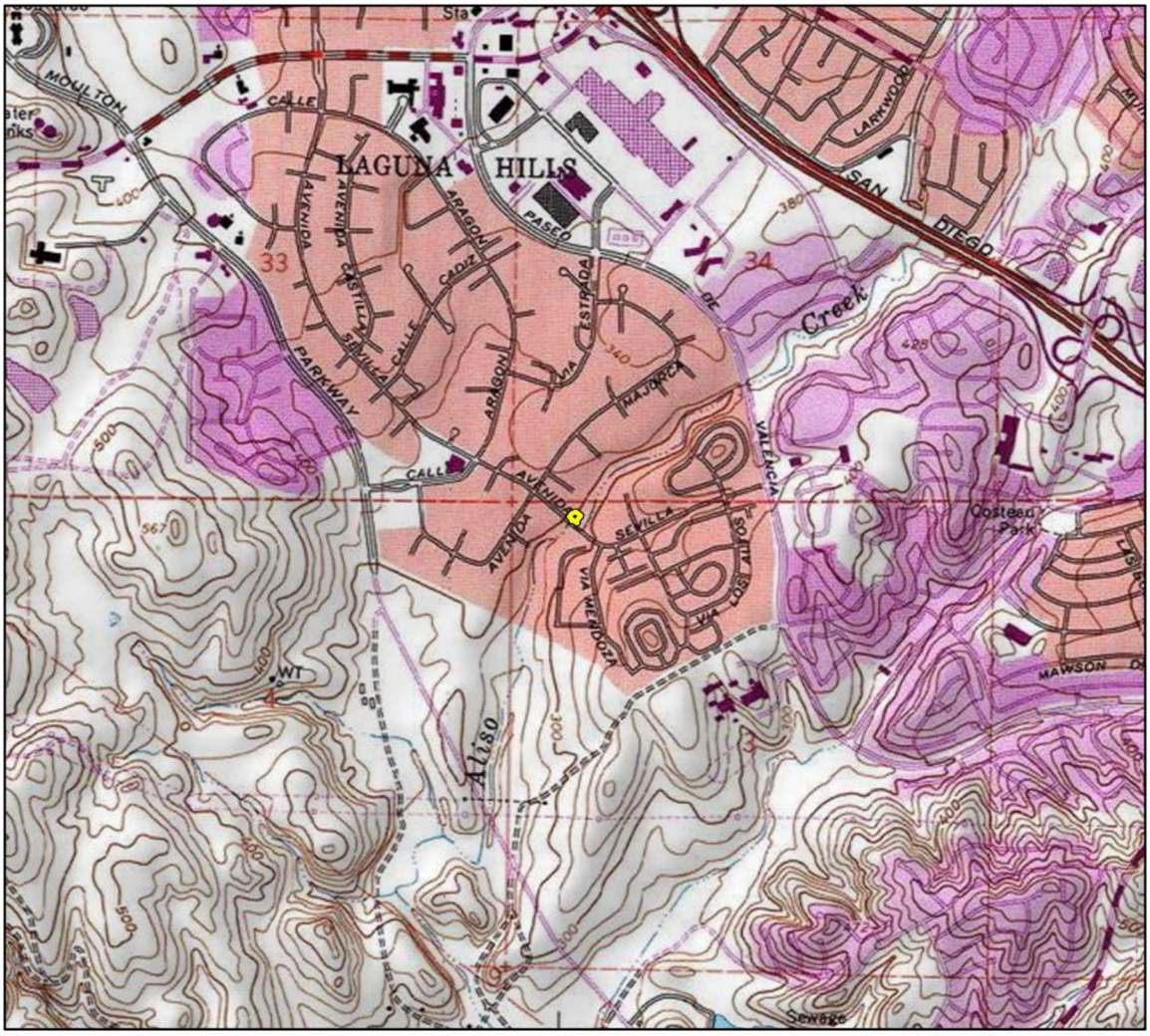

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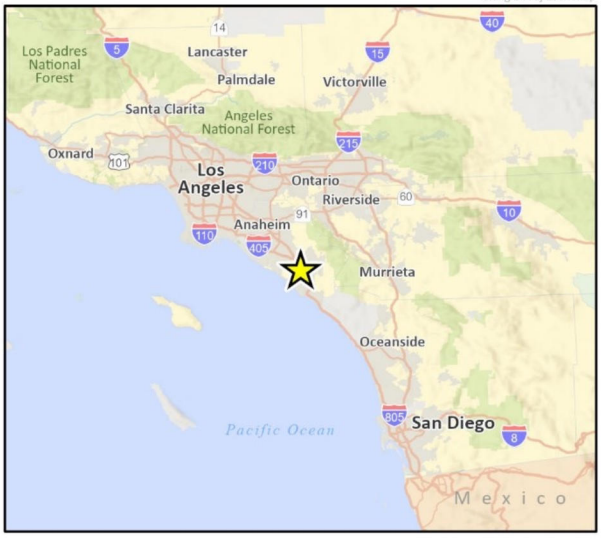

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Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Cahuilla Band of Indians
Erica Schenk, Chairperson
52701 CA Highway 371
Anza, California 92539
Via email: chair@cahuilla-nsn.gov

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Chairperson Schenk:

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Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Andrea Ogaz MA, RPA
Archaeologist/Project Manager

Attachments

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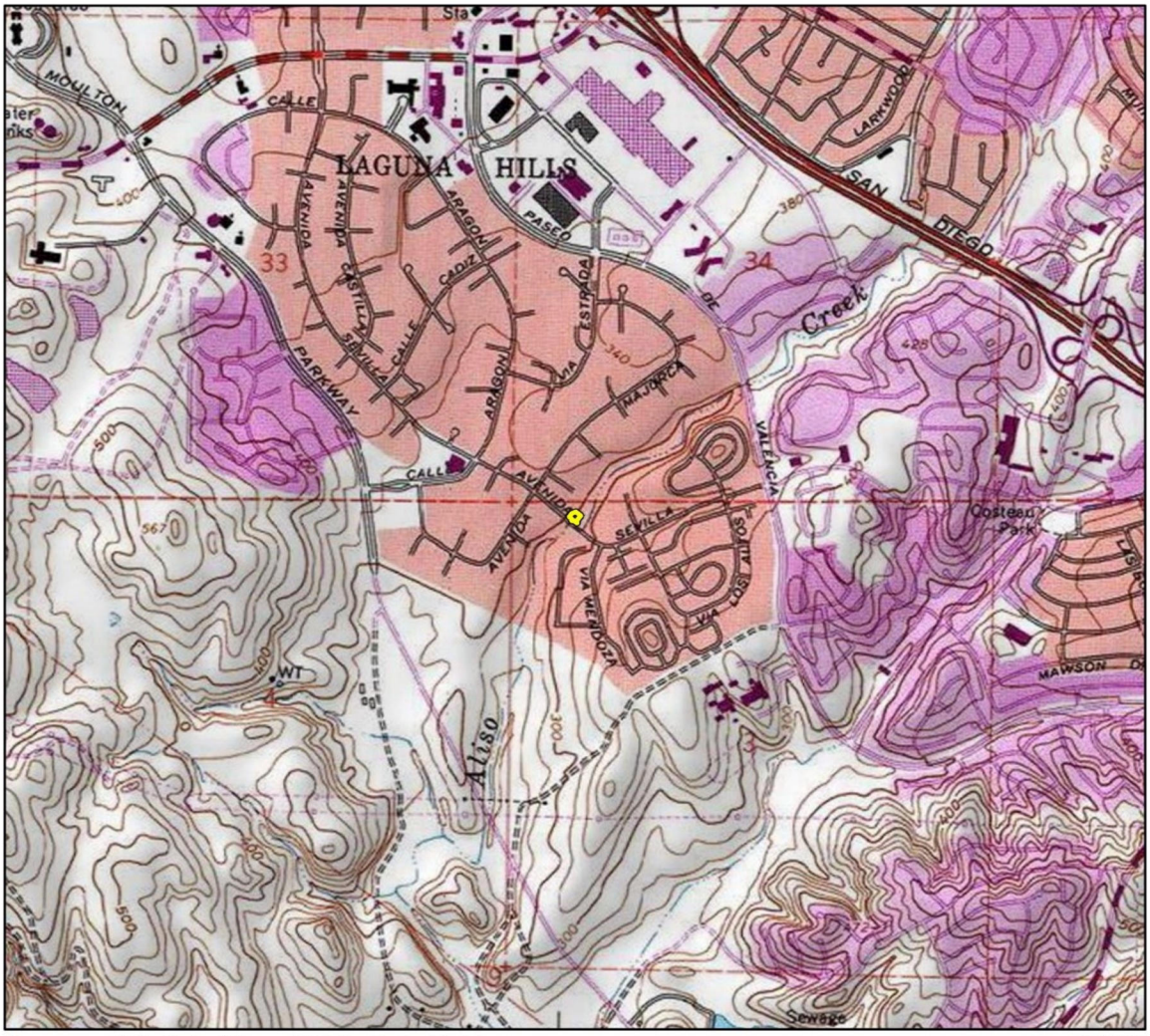

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Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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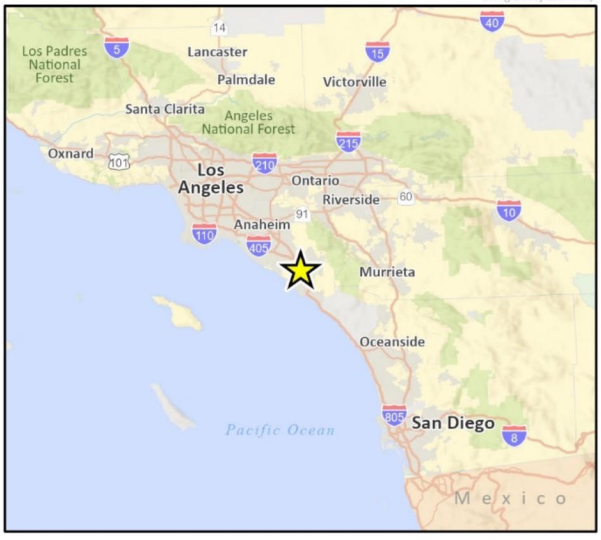

Figure 2 Project Site Map

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation
Christina Swindall Martinez, Secretary
P.O. Box 393
Covina, California 91723
Via email: admin@gabrielinoindians.org

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Ms. Swindall Martinez:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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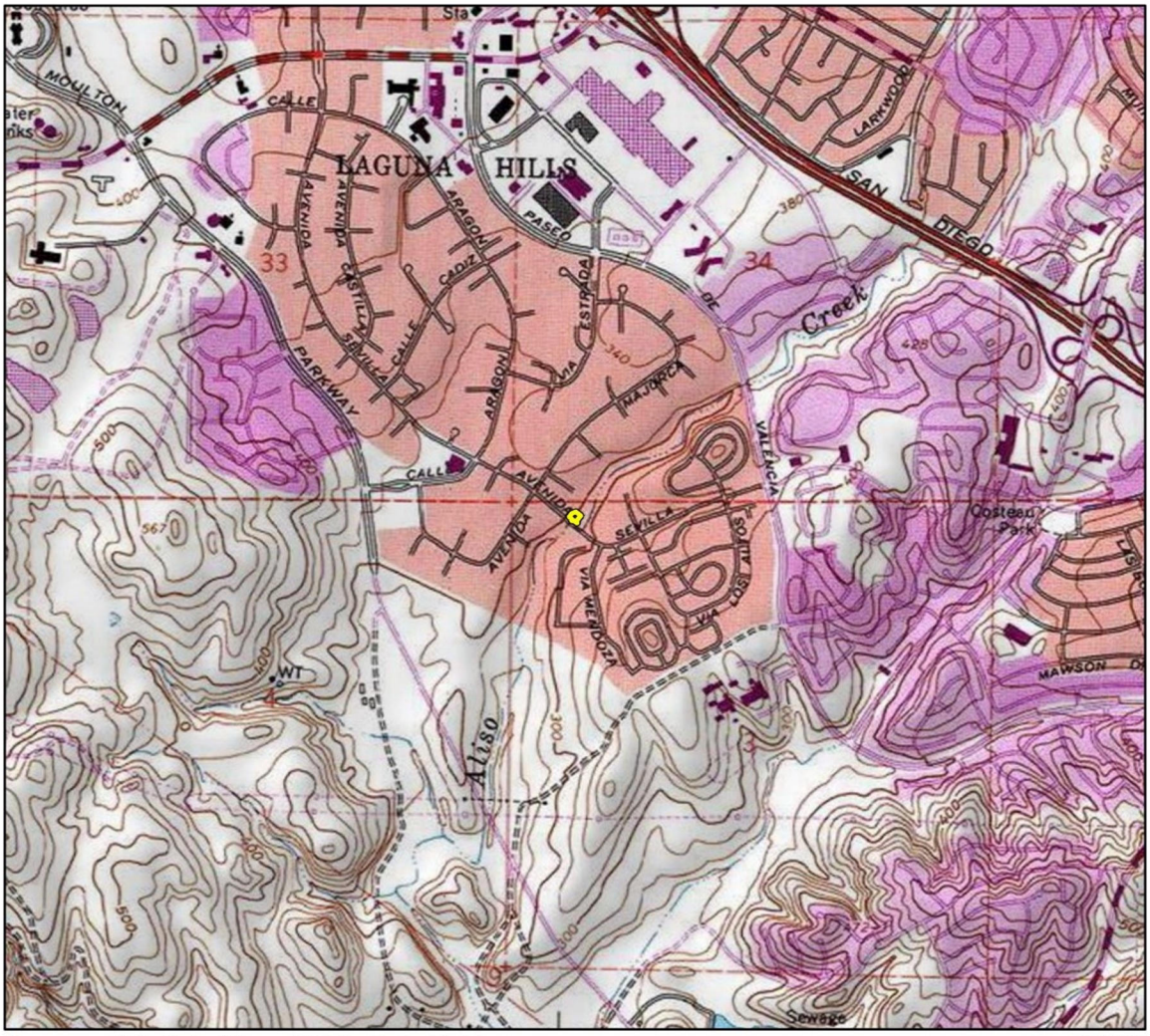

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Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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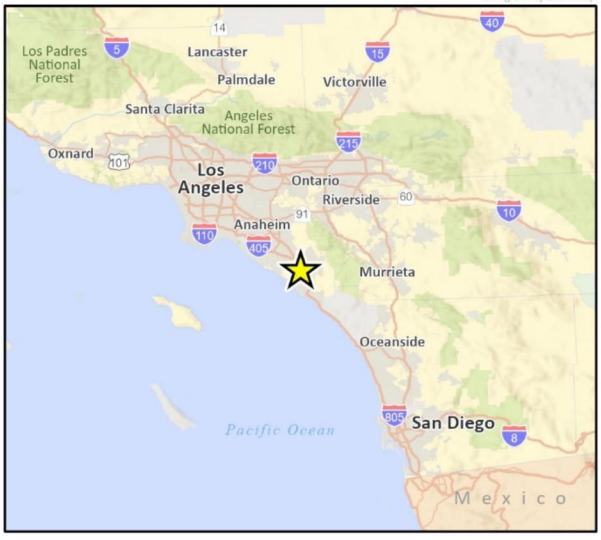

Figure 2 Project Site Map

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians
Jessica Valdez, Cultural Resource Specialist
P.O. Box 487
San Jacinto, California 92581
Via email: jvaldez@soboba-nsn.gov

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Ms. Valdez:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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A search of the California Historical Resources Information System was conducted on October 3, 2024. The records search did not identify any prehistoric sites, sacred sites, and/or traditional cultural properties within or adjacent to the project site. On October 21, 2024, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File for the project was returned with positive results and a request to contact the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes for further information.

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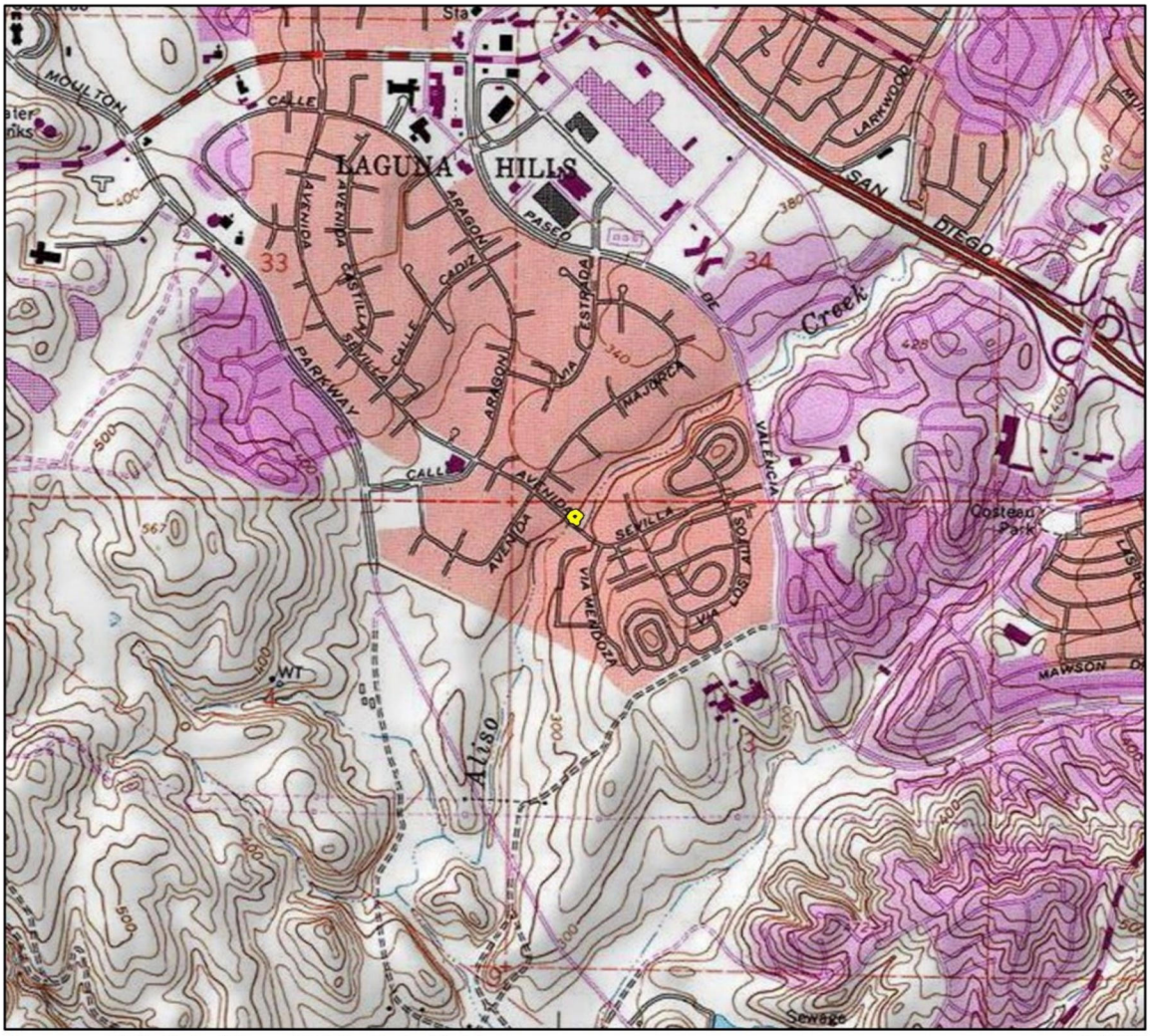

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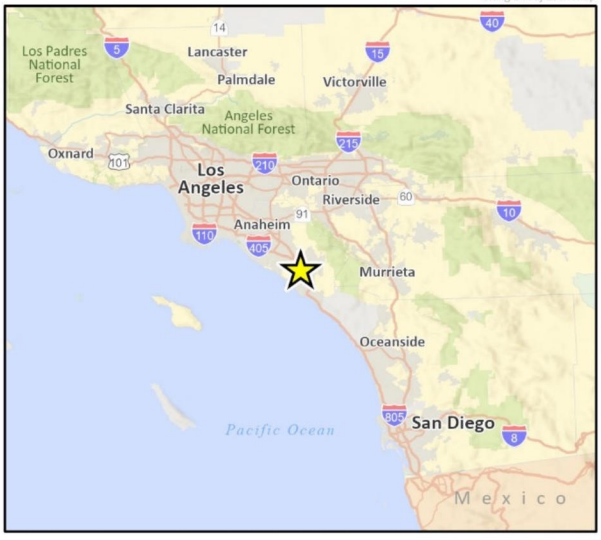
Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

N



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Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Pala Band of Mission Indians
Alexis Wallick, Assistant THPO
PMB 50
35008 Pala Temecula Road
Pala, California 92059
Via email: awallick@palatribe.com

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Ms. Wallick:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

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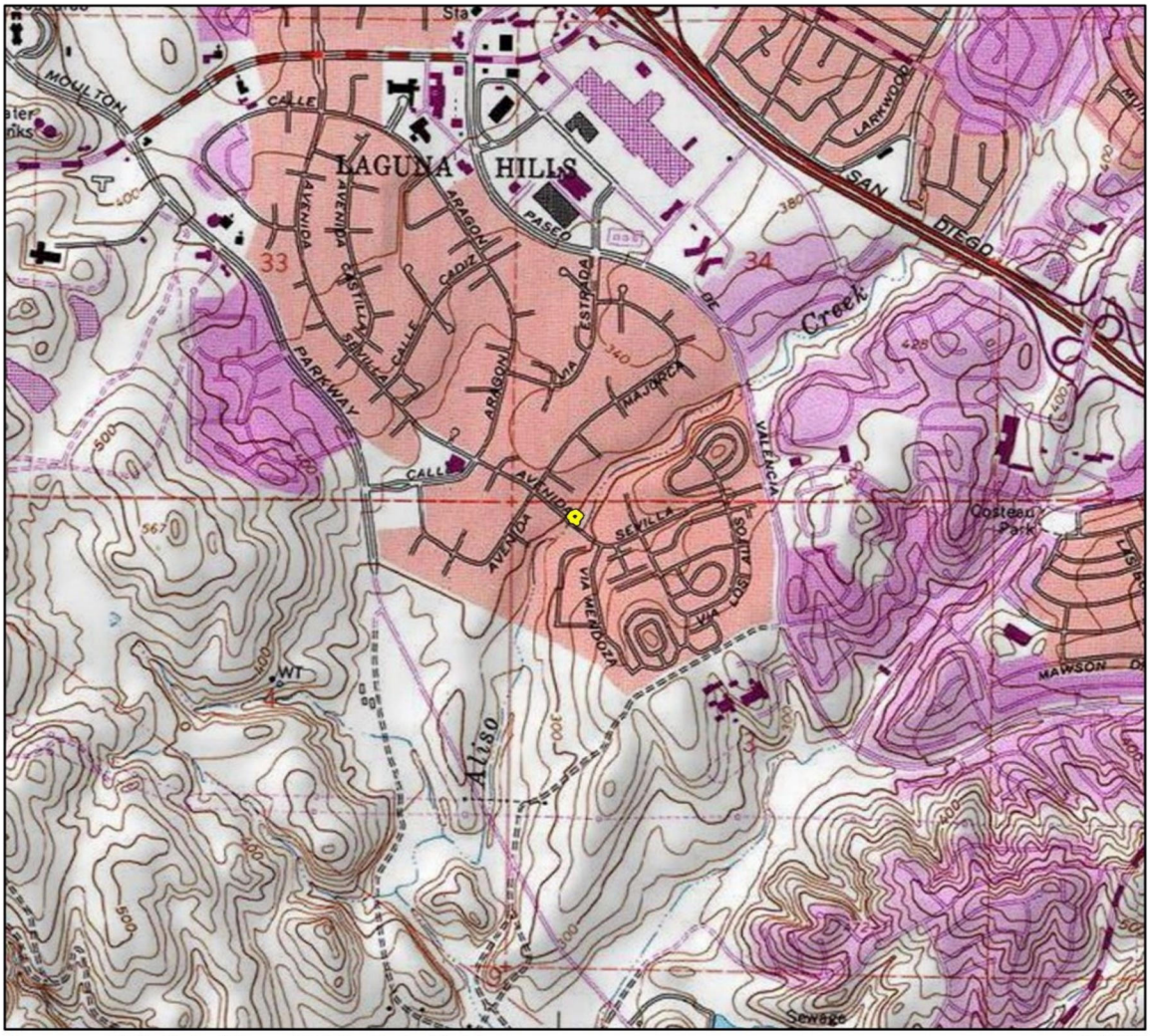

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Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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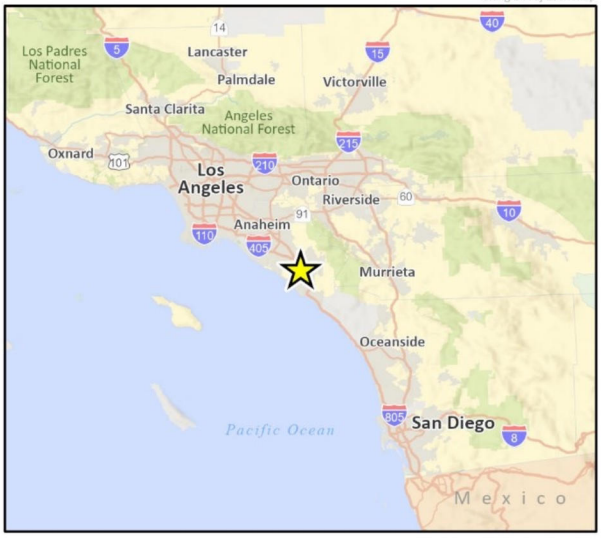

Figure 2 Project Site Map

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians
Norma Contreras, Chairperson
22000 Highway 76
Pauma Valley, California 92061

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Chairperson Contreras:

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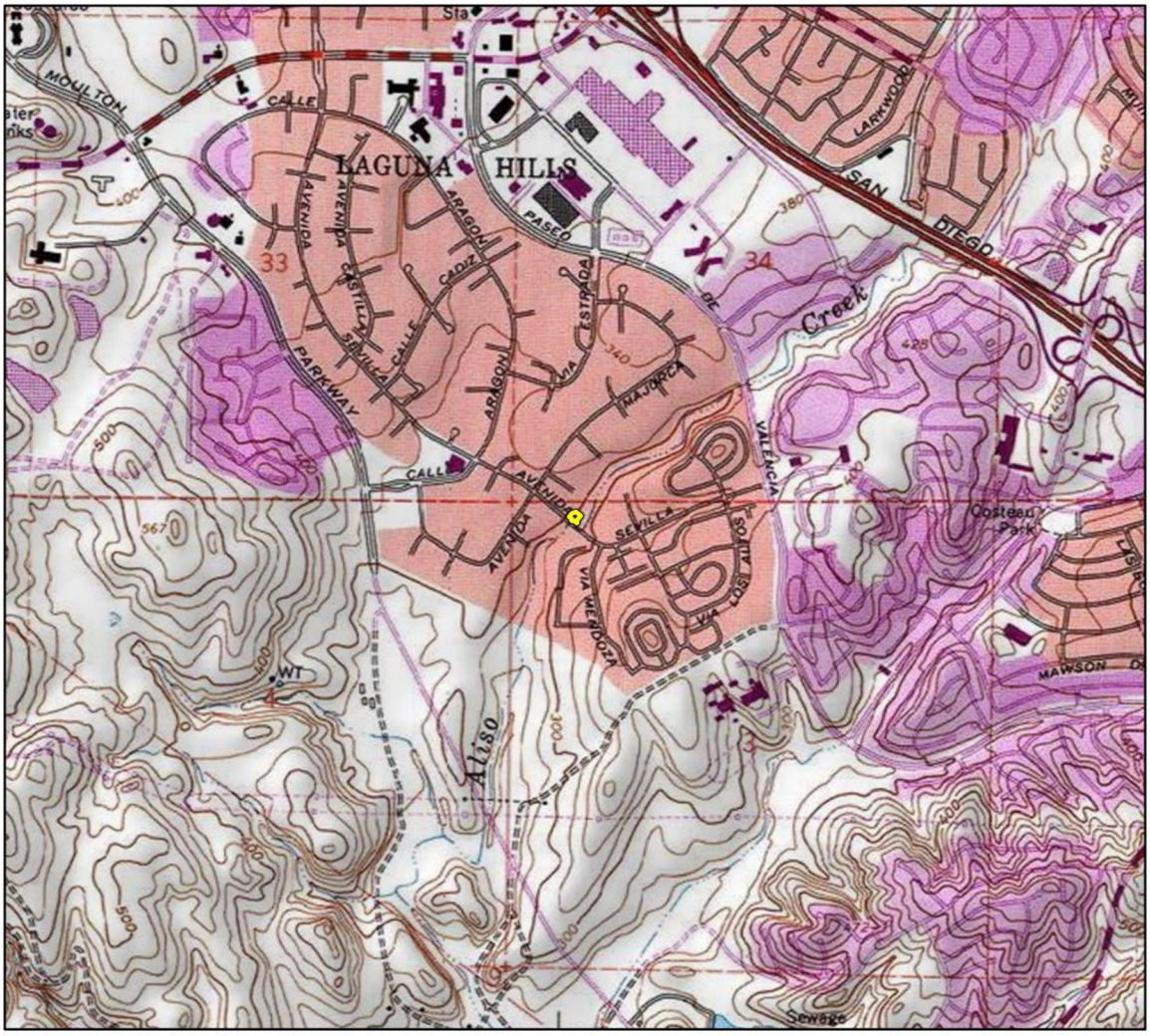

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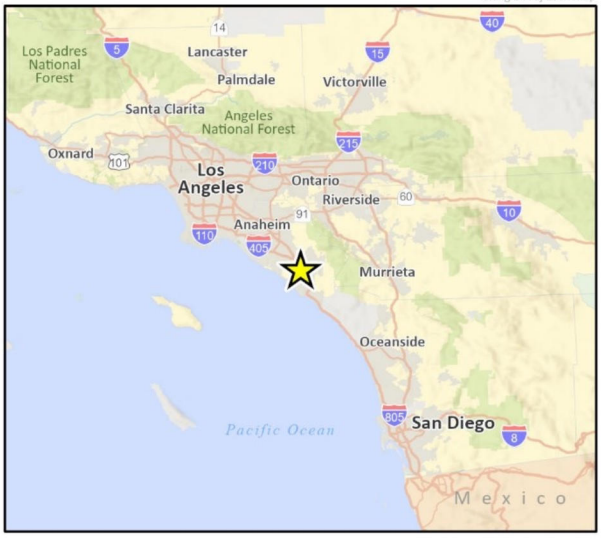

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Street and Apt. No., or PO Box No. 22000 Highway 76

City, State, ZIP+4® Pauma Valley, CA 92061

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Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 7, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – 84A
Heidi Lucero, Chairperson, THPO
31411-A La Matanza Street
San Juan Capistrano, California 92675
Via email: jbmian.chairwoman@gmail.com

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Chairperson Lucero:

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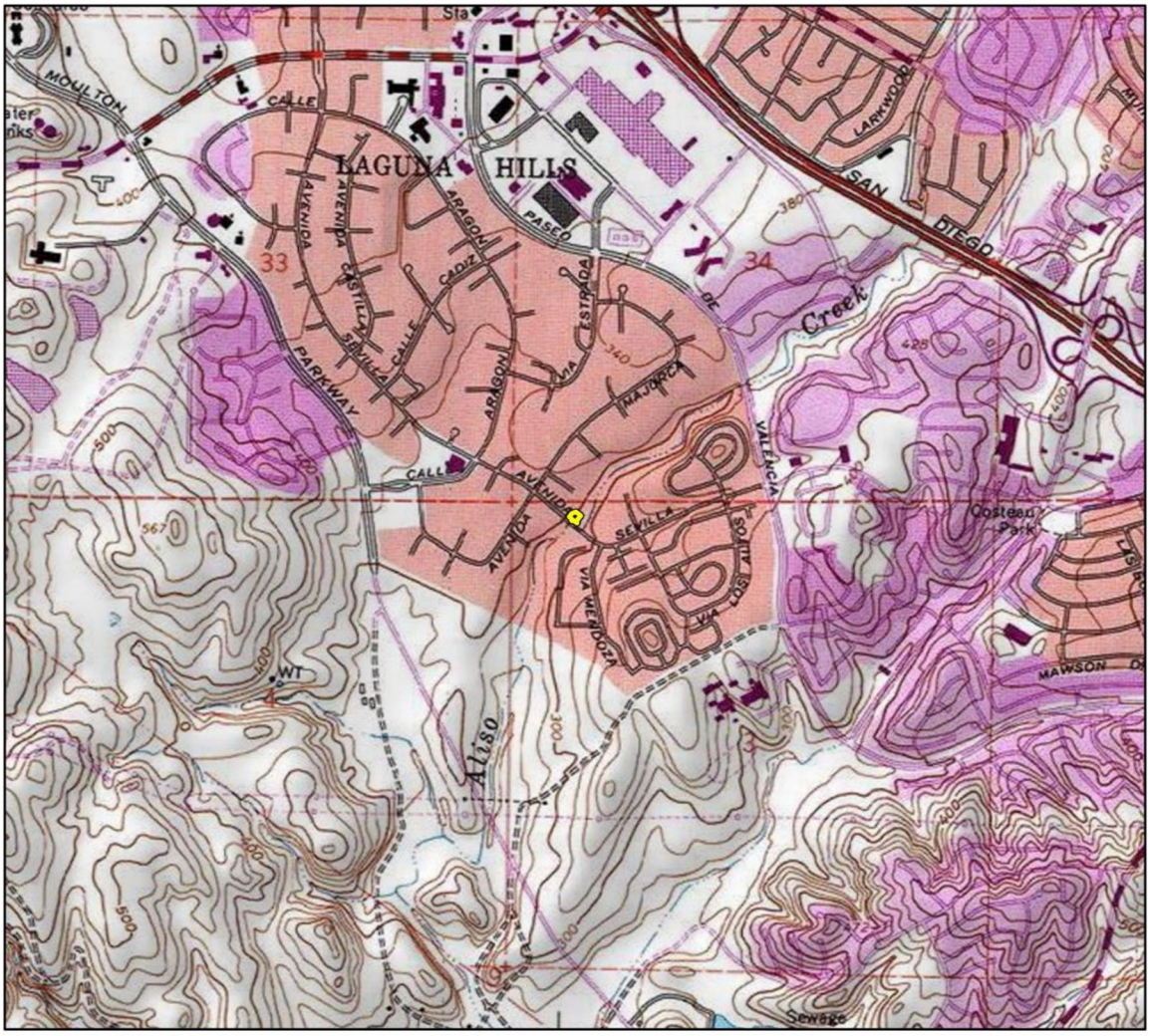

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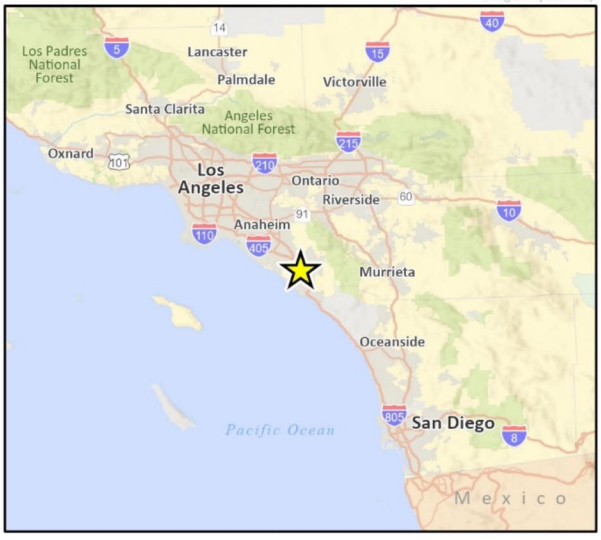


Figure 2 Project Site Map

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

November 20, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians
Wendy Schlater, Chairperson
Via email: wendy.schlater@lajolla-nsn.gov

Subject: Cultural Resources Assessment for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County, California

Dear Chairperson Schlater:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (District) to perform a Cultural Resources Assessment for the District's Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project (project). The approximately 0.16-acre project site is located at the existing Aliso Creek Lift Station within Assessor's Parcel Numbers 621-101-18 and 621-101-04, immediately north of the Avenida Sevilla overcrossing of Aliso Creek in the Laguna Woods Village community, City of Laguna Woods, Orange County. The project site is within Section 3 of Township 7 South, Range 8 West of the *San Juan Capistrano*, *California* United States Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle. Project maps are provided in Attachment 1.

The project involves demolition of several components within the existing lift station (including the electrical building, access driveway and gate, and various piping and electrical components, abandonment of the existing wet well in place, conversion of the existing dry pit into emergency storage, relocation of several components within the existing lift station (e.g., emergency bypass pump), reconfiguration of electrical equipment, and replacement of the existing emergency generator and existing masonry block wall along the southeast boundary. The project also includes construction of a new 12-foot-diameter, 40-foot-deep wet well and a 15-foot-tall, 250-square-foot electrical building. Additionally, two emergency discharge manholes, a new connection to the downstream force main, and a new access driveway and gate would be installed. The project also involves removal of approximately 15 trees and planting of approximately three new trees.

A search of the California Historical Resources Information System was conducted on October 3, 2024. The records search did not identify any prehistoric sites, sacred sites, and/or traditional cultural properties within or adjacent to the project site. On October 21, 2024, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission's Sacred Lands File for the project was returned with positive results and a request to contact the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation – Belardes for further information.

The project is subject to compliance with the California Environmental Act (CEQA), with the District acting as lead agency under CEQA. The District intends to pursue Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Funding. Therefore, the project may also be subject to review under Title 54 United States Code Section 306108, commonly known as Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and its implementing regulations found at 36 Code of Federal Regulations Section 800. Construction is anticipated to begin July 2026 and be completed in December 2027, depending on grant funding.

As a component of the Cultural Resources Assessment being prepared for this project, Rincon is reaching out to you to request your input regarding the potential presence of cultural resources in the project area or its vicinity. This outreach is for informational purposes only, and all responses will be documented in our technical report. If you or your organization has knowledge of historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed project, please contact Andrea Ogaz at Rincon Consultants Inc. at aogaz@rinconconsultants.com. We respectfully request a response to this letter within 14 calendar days of receipt. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Andrea Ogaz MA, RPA
Archaeologist/Project Manager

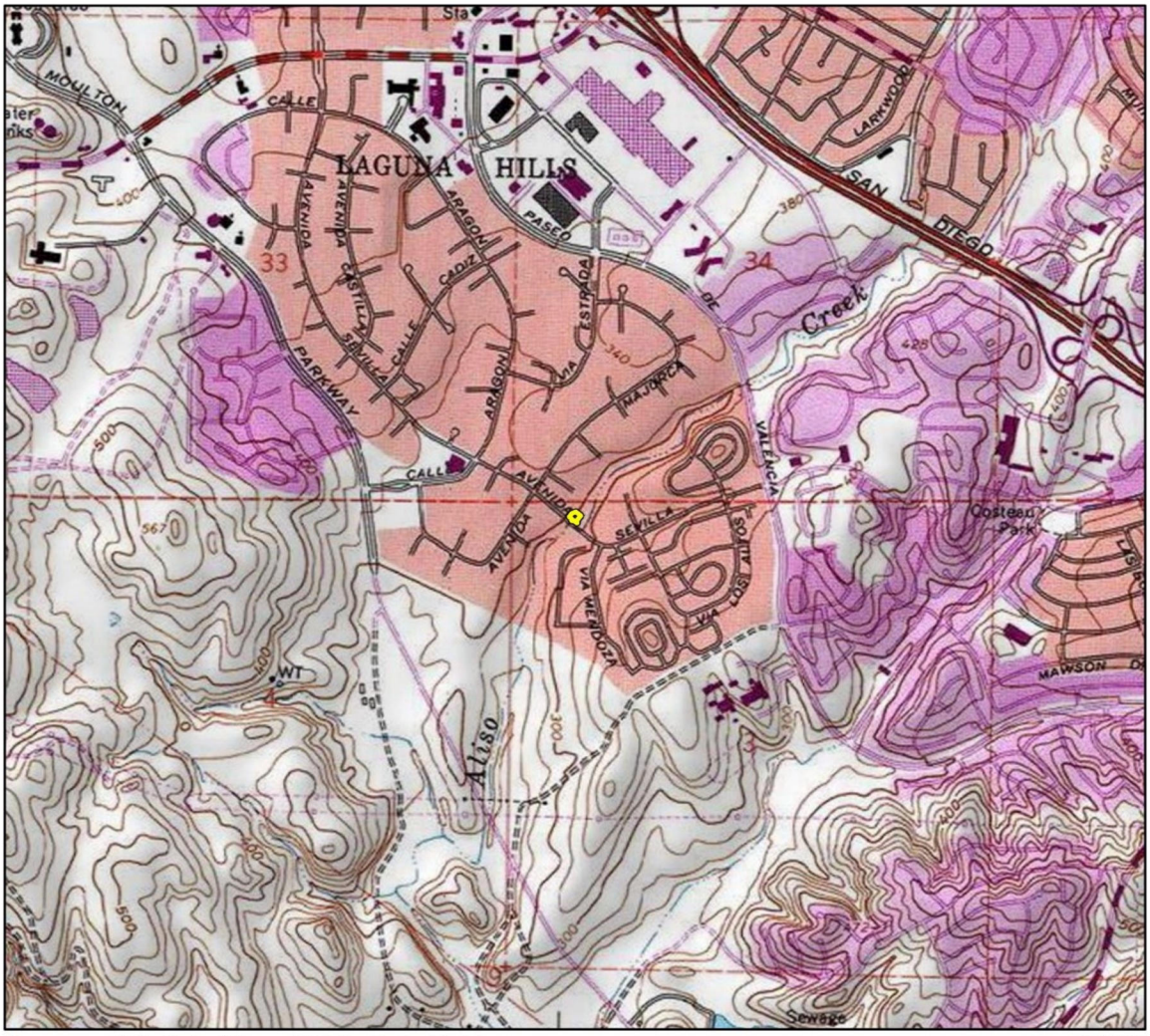
Attachments

Attachment 1 Project Location Map and Project Site Map

Attachment 1

Project Location Map and Project Site Map

Figure 1 Project Location Map



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Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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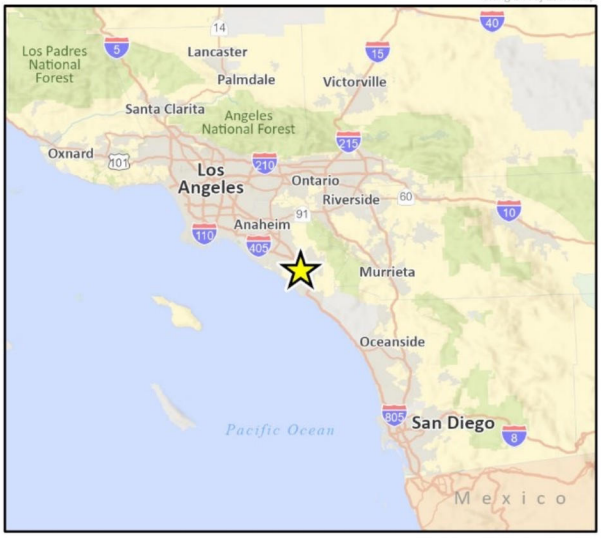

Figure 2 Project Site Map

Andrea Ogaz

From: Vanessa Minott <vminott@santarosa-nsn.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 2:17 PM
To: Andrea Ogaz
Subject: [EXT] RE: Native American Outreach for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project

Acha'i Tamit,
Thank you for reaching out to Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians. We defer any comments to Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians cultural resource department.

Respectfully,
Vanessa Minott,
Tribal Administrator

Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
P.O. Box 391820
Anza, CA 92539
951-659-2700 ext. 102
760-668-0460 work cell

From: Andrea Ogaz <aogaz@rinconconsultants.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 1:54 PM
To: Vanessa Minott <vminott@santarosa-nsn.gov>
Subject: [External] Native American Outreach for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project

Dear Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator:

We are reaching out to you to request your input regarding the potential presence of cultural resources in the APE or its vicinity for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project.

Please see the attached letter for project information and our request for your input, including a project location map.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

Andrea Ogaz, MA, RPA

Archaeologist/Project Manager
(*She/Her/Hers*)
626-215-7714 Mobile | 213-784-7550 Direct
aogaz@rinconconsultants.com

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Andrea Ogaz

From: Gabrieleno Administration <admin@gabrielenoindians.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 3:53 PM
To: Andrea Ogaz
Subject: [EXT] Re: Native American Outreach for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project

Hello Andrea

Thank you for your email. Can you please provide the lead agencies contact information?

Thank you

Brandy Salas
Admin Specialist
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation
PO Box 393
Covina, CA 91723
Office: 844-390-0787
website: www.gabrielenoindians.org

The region where Gabrieleño culture thrived for more than eight centuries encompassed most of Los Angeles County, more than half of Orange County and portions of Riverside and San Bernardino counties. It was the labor of the Gabrieleño who built the missions, ranchos and the pueblos of Los Angeles. They were trained in the trades, and they did the construction and maintenance, as well as the farming and managing of herds of livestock. "The Gabrieleño are the ones who did all this work, and they really are the foundation of the early economy of the Los Angeles area ". "That's a contribution that Los Angeles has not recognized--the fact that in its early decades, without the Gabrieleño, the community simply would not have survived."

On Thu, Nov 7, 2024 at 1:59 PM Andrea Ogaz <aogaz@rinconconsultants.com> wrote:

> To Whom It May Concern,
>
> We are reaching out to you to request your input regarding the potential presence of cultural resources in the APE or its vicinity for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project.

Please see the attached letter for project information and our request for your input, including a project location map.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

Andrea Ogaz, MA, RPA

Archaeologist/Project Manager
(*She/Her/Hers*)

626-215-7714 Mobile | 213-784-7550 Direct

aogaz@rinconconsultants.com

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Andrea Ogaz

From: Steven Estrada <sestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2024 8:47 PM
To: Andrea Ogaz
Subject: [EXT] Re: [External] Native American Outreach for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project

Thank you.

Santa Rosa has no specific concerns related to this project.

From: Andrea Ogaz <aogaz@rinconconsultants.com>
Date: Thursday, November 7, 2024 at 1:54 PM
To: Steven Estrada <sestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov>
Subject: [External] Native American Outreach for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project

Dear Steven Estrada, Tribal Chairman:

We are reaching out to you to request your input regarding the potential presence of cultural resources in the APE or its vicinity for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project.

Please see the attached letter for project information and our request for your input, including a project location map.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

Andrea Ogaz, MA, RPA
Archaeologist/Project Manager
(*She/Her/Hers*)
626-215-7714 Mobile | 213-784-7550 Direct
aogaz@rinconconsultants.com

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City, State, ZIP+4® Pauma Valley, CA 92061

PS Form **3800**, April 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9047 See Reverse for Instructions

Appendix D

Local Interested Party Outreach Documentation

Interested Party Outreach Tracker

Contact List	Date Letter Sent to Contact	Follow up Contact	Comments/Concerns
Orange County Historical Society c/o Chris Jepsen, President P.O Box 10984, Santa Ana, CA 92711 (657) 317-8489 info@sfhistory.org historian@orangecounty.org	October 17, 2024 via post October 22, 2024 via email	November 13, 2024	Received email responses to initial and follow-up outreach that message was received and that one of OCHS's volunteers would be in touch as soon as possible. No additional correspondence has been sent to Rincon as of 12/6/2024.
Laguna Woods History Center Attn: Board of Trustees P.O. Box 2220, Laguna Hills, CA 92654 (949) 206-0150 No email identified	October 17, 2024 via post	LWHC's CEO Dean O. Dixon responded via letter dated October 24, 2024 and received by Rincon's Los Angeles Office on November 4, 2024.	Mr. Dixon commented: "…we at the Laguna Woods History Center are unaware of any historic properties or other cultural resources in the project area or vicinity that have the potential for being affected by the proposed undertaking."

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012
213-788-4842

December 17,2024
Project No: 24-16575

Laguna Woods History Center
Attn: Board of Trustees
P.O Box 2220, Laguna Hills, CA 92654
(949) 206-1050

Subject: Aliso Creek Lift Station Rehabilitation Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County -

Dear Laguna Woods History Center:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (EWTD) to perform a Cultural Resources Study for ETWD's Aliso Creek List Station Rehabilitation Project (project), located at 24091 Sevilla Avenue in the City of Laguna Woods. The project would occur on a 0.16-acre site within Orange County Assessor's parcel 621-101-18, and would demolish an existing electrical building, wet well access hatch, various dry pit components, an access driveway and gate, concrete containment curbs, and various piping and electrical conduits within the existing lift station site. The project would construct a new 250-square-foot electrical building, a new 40-foot-deep wet well, and replace an existing emergency generator with a new 500-kilowatt diesel emergency generator. A new 20-foot-wide access driveway perpendicular to Avenida Sevilla with a new access gate, as well as a new sidewalk, curb, and gutter would be built. The existing concrete block wall facing the Upper Aliso Creek Trail would be replaced by an eight-foot-tall wall of similar materials. Five trees along the southwestern boundary of the project site would be replaced by three new, 24-inch box trees.

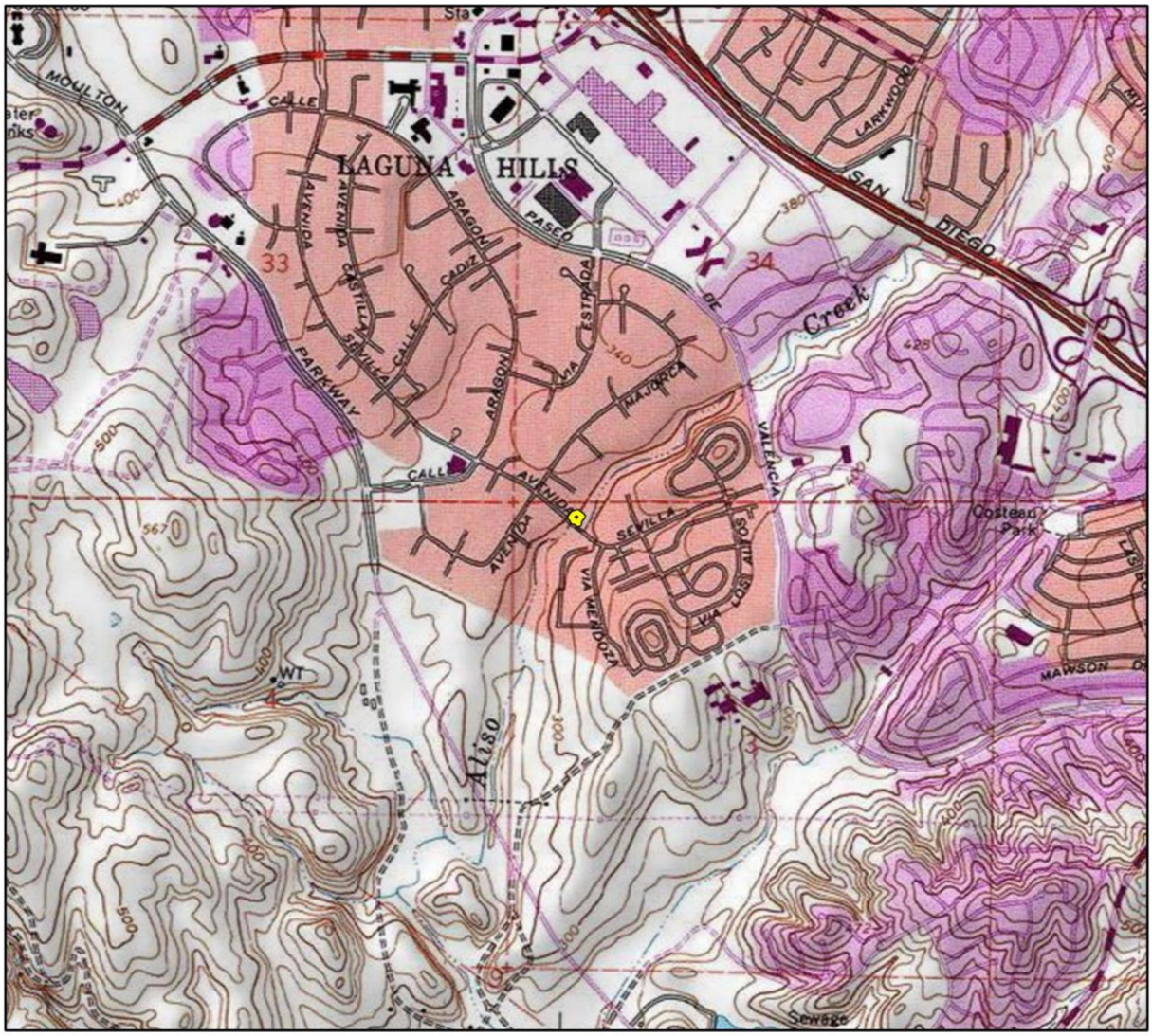
As a component of a cultural resources study Rincon is consulting with potentially interested parties to request information on potential or known historic properties or other cultural resources in the project area or vicinity. Rincon is currently working to identify any potential cultural resource issues associated with the proposed undertaking.

If you or your organization has knowledge of historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed project please contact architectural historian Josh Bevan at Rincon Consultants Inc. - jbevan@rinconconsultants.com. We respectfully request a response to this letter within 14 calendar days of receipt. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Josh Bevan, Architectural Historian

Attachments
Aliso Creek Lift Station Project Location Map
Aliso Creek Lift Station Project Site Map



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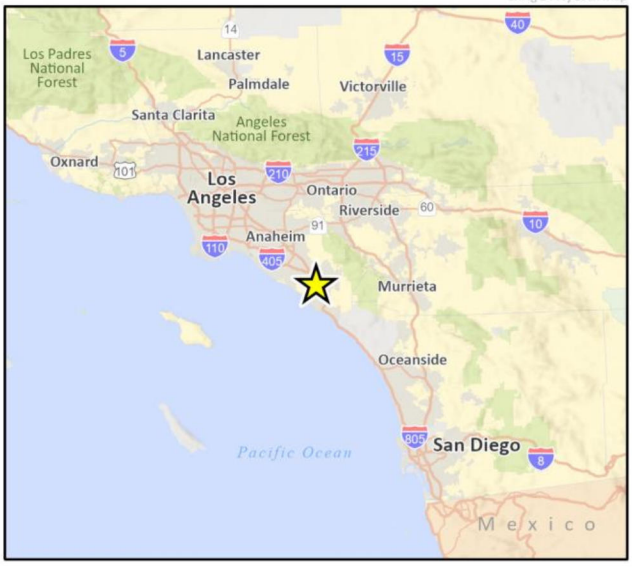
24-16575 CR
CRFig 1 Proj Locn Map



Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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24-16575 CR
CRFig 2 Project Site

Rincon Consultants, Inc.
449 15th Street, Suite 303
Oakland, California 94612
510-834-4455

October 22, 2024
Project No: 24-16575

Orange County Historical Society
c/o Chris Jepsen, President
P.O Box 10984, Santa Ana, CA 92711
(657) 317-8489
Via email: info@orangecountyhistory.org; historian@orangecountyhistory.org

Subject: Aliso Creek Lift Station Rehabilitation Project, Laguna Woods, Orange County -

Dear Orange County Historical Society:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) has been retained by the El Toro Water District (EWTD) to perform a Cultural Resources Study for ETWD's Aliso Creek List Station Rehabilitation Project (project), located at 24091 Sevilla Avenue in the City of Laguna Woods. The project would occur on a 0.16-acre site within Orange County Assessor's parcel 621-101-18, and would demolish an existing electrical building, wet well access hatch, various dry pit components, an access driveway and gate, concrete containment curbs, and various piping and electrical conduits within the existing lift station site. The project would construct a new 250-square-foot electrical building, a new 40-foot-deep wet well, and replace an existing emergency generator with a new 500-kilowatt diesel emergency generator. A new 20-foot-wide access driveway perpendicular to Avenida Sevilla with a new access gate, as well as a new sidewalk, curb, and gutter would be built. The existing concrete block wall facing the Upper Aliso Creek Trail would be replaced by an eight-foot-tall wall of similar materials. Five trees along the southwestern boundary of the project site would be replaced by three new, 24-inch box trees.

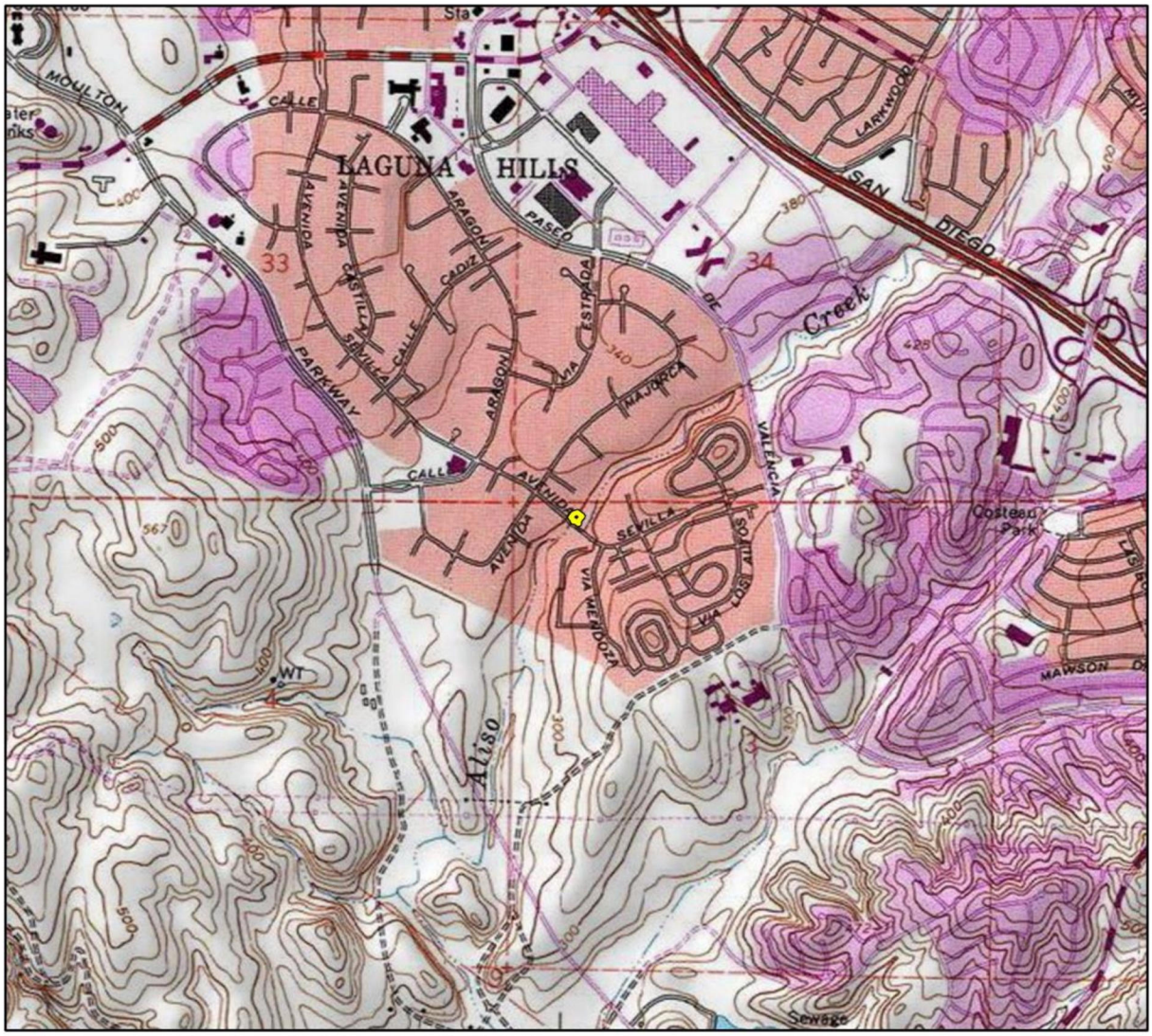
As a component of a cultural resources study Rincon is consulting with potentially interested parties to request information on potential or known historic properties or other cultural resources in the project area or vicinity. Rincon is currently working to identify any potential cultural resource issues associated with the proposed undertaking.

If you or your organization has knowledge of historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed project please contact architectural historian Josh Bevan at Rincon Consultants Inc. - jbevan@rinconconsultants.com. We respectfully request a response to this letter within 14 calendar days of receipt. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Josh Bevan, Architectural Historian

Attachments
Aliso Creek Lift Station Project Location Map
Aliso Creek Lift Station Project Site



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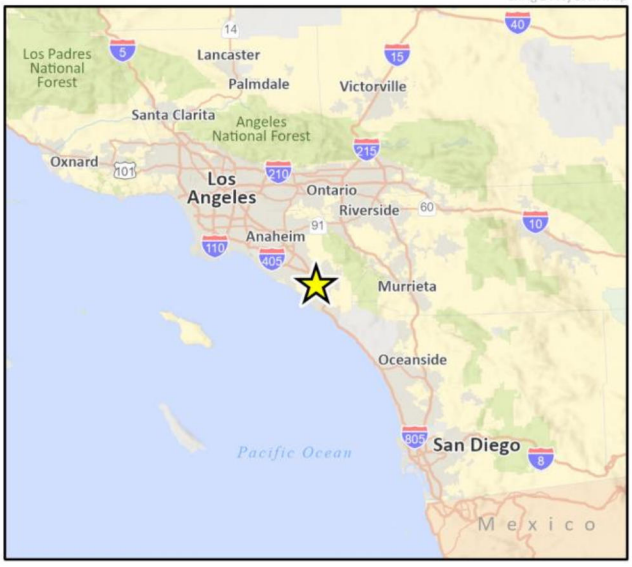
24-16575 CR
CRFig 1 Proj Locn Map



Project Location

0 1,000 2,000 Feet

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24-16575 CR
CRFig 2 Project Site

LAGUNA WOODS
HISTORY CENTER

October 24, 2024

Mr. Josh Bevan, Architectural Historian
Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012

Subject: Project No. 24-16575
El Toro Water District
Aliso Creek Lift Station Rehabilitation Project

Dear Mr. Bevan:

In response to your letter dated October 17, 2024, regarding the subject project for the El Toro Water District in Laguna Woods Village, we at the Laguna Woods History Center are unaware of any historic properties or other cultural resources in the project area or vicinity that have the potential for being affected by the proposed undertaking.

The rehabilitation of an existing facility creates no new concerns regarding any historical impact, and the proposal presented in your letter and supporting documents seem to address even the aesthetics of the completed project and public access to the surroundings.

We trust the above is sufficient for your purposes, but please let us know if we can provide more information.

Yours truly,

Dean O. Dixon
CEO

Appendix E

California Department of Parks and Recreation 523 Series Forms

State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #
HRI #
Trinomial
NRHP Status Code

Other Listings
Review Code Reviewer Date

 ***Resource Name or #:** Aliso Creek Lift Station

P1. Other Identifier: None.

*__P2. Location:__ ☒ __Unrestricted__

__*a. County__ Orange __and__

__*b. USGS 7.5' Quad__ *San Juan Capistrano, Calif.* __Date__ 2024 __T__ 07S; __R__ 08W __of Sec__ 3; S.B.B.M

c. Address 24091 Avenida Sevilla City Laguna Woods Zip 92637

d. UTM: Zone 11S, 434229.51 mE/ 37170904.61 mN

e. Other Locational Data: N/A.

***P3a. Description:**

The Aliso Creek Lift Station (ACLS) is located on the northeast side of Avenida Sevilla and immediately northwest of Aliso Creek in the city of Laguna Woods, Orange County (P5a. Photograph 1). The facility is owned and operated by El Toro Water District and collects sewage from surrounding residences and from two upstream lift stations (4920 and Mathis) and conveys the sewage to the El Toro Water District Water Recycling Plant. The facility site is approximately 0.13 acre, mostly flat, and consists of the lift station contained in a six-sided enclosure secured with concrete block walls and a double-leaf entrance gate. The southwest perimeter of the site is located adjacent to a sidewalk along Avenida Sevilla and features a planting bed with tall hedges that largely obscure the lift station from views from the southwest (Photograph 2). An asphalt driveway accesses the entrance gate at the south. Each leaf of the entrance gate swings inward and outward and is finished with diamond-plate metal panels. The southeast perimeter of the site is bordered by the Aliso Creek trail and Aliso Creek east of the trail (Photograph 3 to Photograph 5). The rearward northeast and northwest walls abut or are directly adjacent to elevated ground, retaining walls, and dense vegetation, which obscure the lift station from views from the north of the property, where private residences are located (Photograph 6 to Photograph 8) (Continued on Page 4)

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** HP9. Public Utility Building HP39. Other (Sewage Lift Station) Choose an item. Choose an item.

***P4. Resources Present:** ☒ Structure

P5a. Photograph 1

P5b. Description (Continued)
Photograph 1: ACLS viewed from Avenida Sevilla, facing north. November 7, 2024.

P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source: ☒ Historic
1965 (Toups Engineering, Inc. Consulting Civil Engineers 1965).

***P7. Owner and Address:**
El Toro Water District
24251 Los Alisos Boulevard
Lake Forest, California 92630

***P8. Recorded by:**
Andrea Ogaz, RPA
Josh Bevan, AICP, MSHP
Rincon Consultants, Inc.
250 East 1st Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, CA 90012

***P9. Date Recorded:**
November 7, 2024

***P10. Survey Type:** Intensive Pedestrian

***P11. Report Citation**:
Ogaz, A., Bevan, J., Abdo K., Nayyar, M. 2024. Rincon Consultants. *Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project Cultural Resources Technical Report, Orange County, California*. Rincon Consultants Project No. 24-16575. Report on file with South Central Coastal Information Center, Cal State University, Fullerton, California.

***Attachments:** ☒Location Map ☒Continuation Sheet ☒Building, Structure, and Object Record

B1. Historic Name: Aliso Creek Lift Station
B2. Common Name: Aliso Creek Lift Station
B3. Original Use: Sewage lift station
B4. Present Use: Sewage lift station
***B5. Architectural Style:** None.
***B6. Construction History:**
As explained by El Toro Water District (ETWD):
The Aliso Creek Lift Station (ACLS) was built in 1965 located at Avenida Sevilla in the City of Laguna Woods. Its original construction included a total of four pumps, configured as two pumps in series on each of the two wet well outlets […]
Several modifications were performed at ACLS, including converting the existing four-pump system into three, parallel pumps then later two, parallel dry pit submersible pumps and adding a grinder upstream of each pump; these alterations appear to have been completed between ca. 1983 and ca. 2001, based on available plans (ETWD 2024; Toups Engineering Inc, 1965; PRC Toups 1983; ASL Consulting Engineers 2001). In mid-2010, ETWD also installed a trailer mounted portable pump above grade for emergency backup (ETWD 2024).

Observed alterations: Entrance gate replacement with existing diamond-plate panel gate at unknown date.

***B7. Moved?** ☒**No**

***B8. Related Features:** None.

B9a. Civil Engineer: Toups Engineering, Inc. Consulting Civil Engineers b. Builder: Rossmoor Sanitation Inc.
***B10. Significance:** **Theme** Planning and Community Development, Architecture **Area:** City of Laguna Woods, Orange County
Period of Significance: 1965 **Property Type:** Wastewater Treatment Infrastructure **Applicable Criteria:** None

The ACLS, which was originally constructed in 1965, is recommended ineligible for federal and state designation; it is therefore is not considered a historical resource as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a) or a historic property as defined by 36 Code of Federal Regulations 800.16(l)(1).

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: None.

***B12. References:** See Continuation Sheet

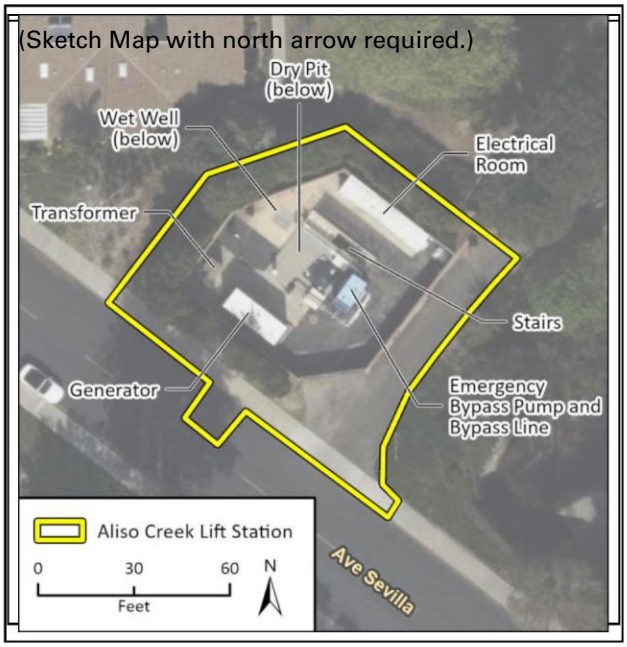
B13. Remarks:

***B14. Evaluator:** Josh Bevan, AICP, MSHP – Rincon Consultants

***Date of Evaluation:** December 16, 2024

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

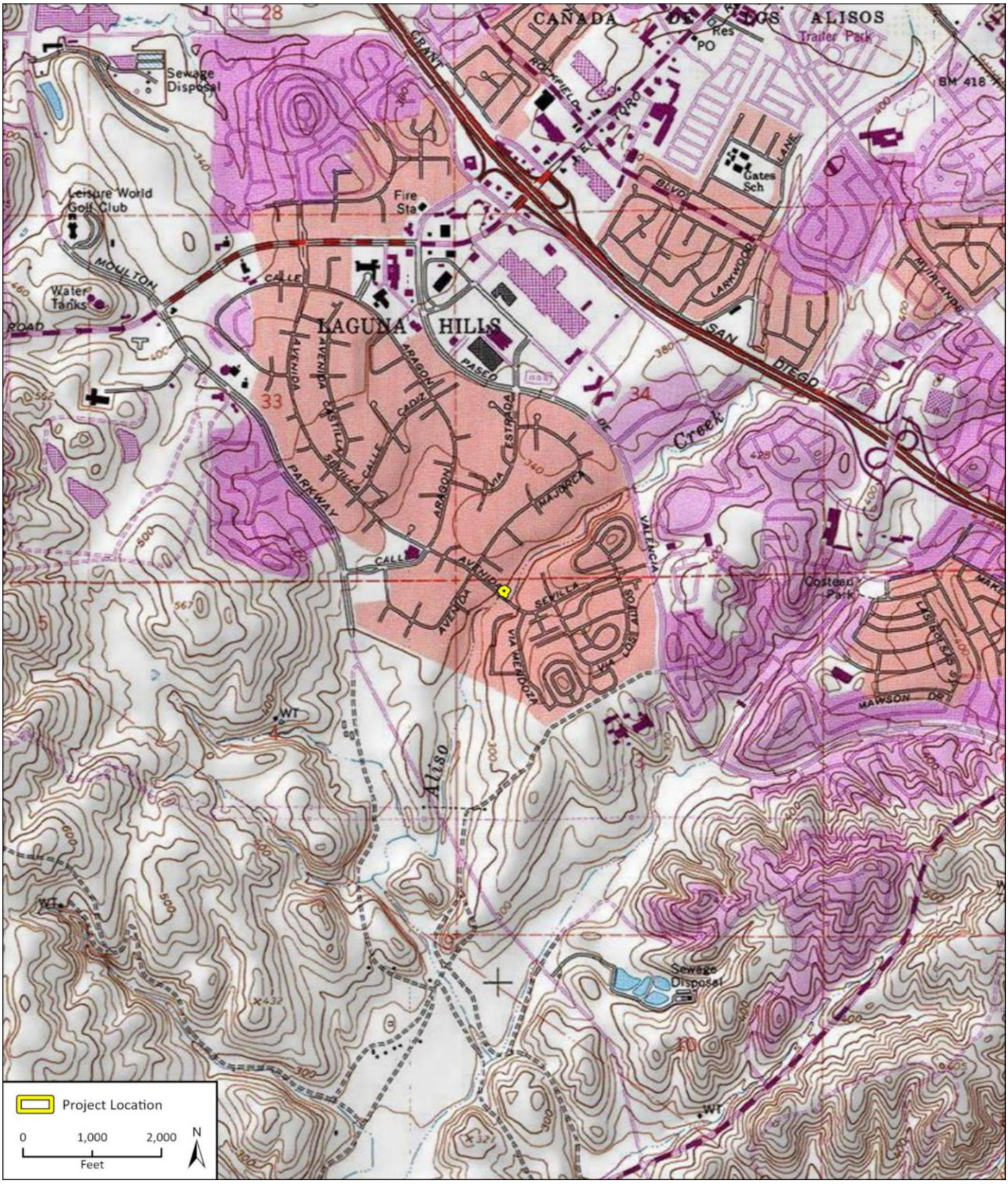


State of California - The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

LOCATION MAP

Primary #
HRI#
Trinomial

Page 3 **of** 15 ***Resource Name or #** Aliso Creek Lift Station
***Map Name:** *San Juan Capistrano, Calif.* ***Scale:** 1:24,000 ***Date of map:** 2024



* Required information

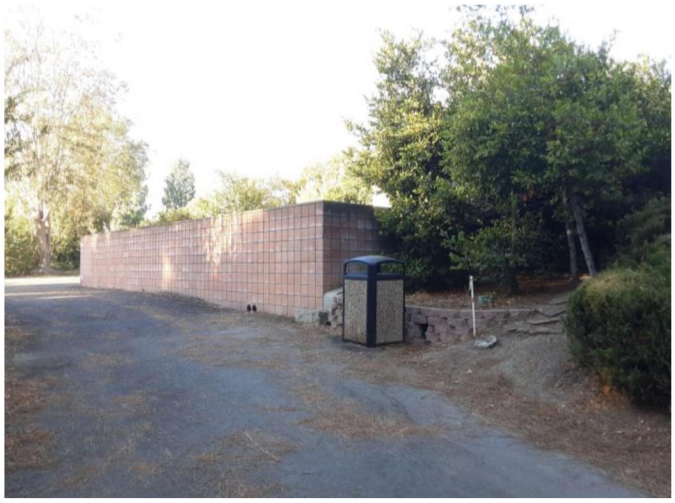
P3a. Description (Continued from Page 1):

Photograph 2. Southwest perimeter of property, camera facing east

Photograph 3. Southeast perimeter of lift station, camera facing north

Photograph 4. Trail along the west side of Aliso Creek, located to the immediate east of the lift station, camera facing northeast

Photograph 5. Aliso Creek, to the east of the lift station, camera facing north



Photograph 6. East corner of lift station, view facing west

Photograph 7. Area to the north of the lift station, camera facing south

Photograph 8. Landscaping along northwest perimeter of lift station, camera facing northeast

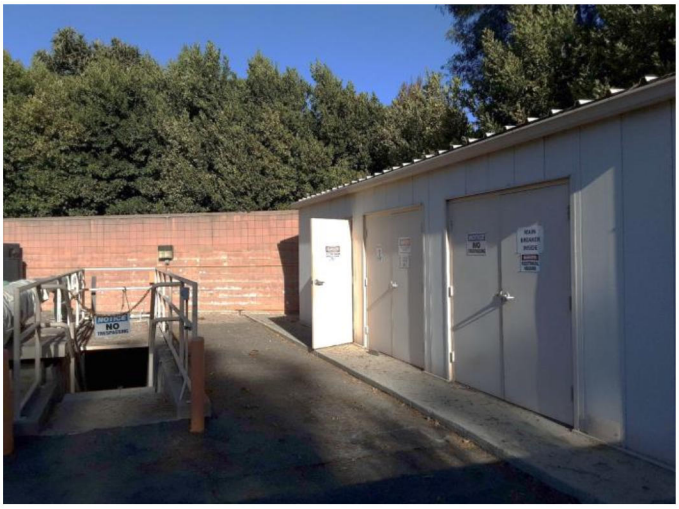
The lift station's concrete block walls feature a square grid pattern and are original, while the entrance gates are a steel or similar metal and are non-original. The enclosed area of the ACLS contains several structures and equipment associated with the station, some of which are located belowground. When entering the lift station, a generator and transformer are located to the left (northwest) of the entrance (Photograph 9). The generator is a metal box structure set on a concrete pad. The transformer is also a metal enclosure set on a concrete pad. The center of the site contains a trailer-mounted, portable emergency bypass pump and related bypass line, which is supported by steel poles and concrete footings (Photograph 10 and Photograph 11). To the north, toward the rear of the enclosure, an electrical room abuts the northeast wall. This building sits on a concrete pad and has a wood frame, with pressed-wood siding, flush-steel doors, and a shed roof (Photograph 12). A wet well and dry pit are accessed via a set of stairs positioned between the emergency bypass equipment (Photograph 13). The stairs descend to the dry pit, which contains a room with pumping pipes, a concrete floor, and concrete walls (Photograph 14, Photograph 15, and Photograph 16).

Photograph 9. West corner of interior of ACLS enclosure with generator (center) and transformer box (right), camera facing southeast

Photograph 10. Emergency bypass equipment at center of interior of ACLS enclosure, camera facing north

Photograph 11. Emergency bypass equipment at center of interior of ACLS enclosure, camera facing northeast

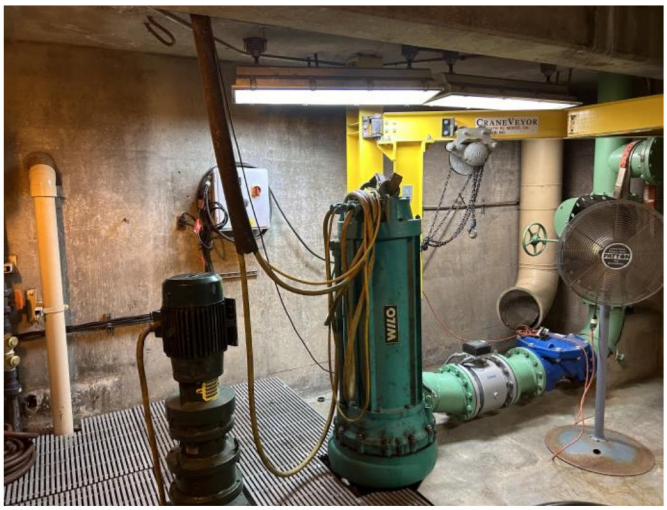
Photograph 12. Electrical room at northeast side of interior of ACLS enclosure, camera facing east



Photograph 13. Stairs (left) accessing belowground dry pit, camera facing west

Photograph 14. Discharge piping in upper subterranean level of lift station, camera facing northeast

Photograph 15. Discharge piping in upper subterranean level of ACLS, camera facing south



Photograph 16. Lower subterranean level of ACLS with grate over suction pipe, gate valve, grinder, and motor at left and check valve at right background, camera facing east

B10. Significance (Continued from Page 2):

What is now the City of Laguna Woods was originally part of Rancho Niguel, granted to Juan Avila in 1842. Avila retained ownership of the rancho until 1865 when severe drought forced him into bankruptcy. By 1895, portions of the rancho were purchased by Lewis Moulton and Jean Pierre Daguerre. These lands later became Moulton Ranch (Laguna Woods History Center 2020).

Throughout the early to mid-20th century, the area was characterized by dry farming and cattle grazing developed with a few scattered ranch dwellings and barns (City of Laguna Woods 2024). At the time, El Toro Road was the main road through the area for transportation of agricultural products and cattle. Ranchers and farmers took their crops to the closest railroad station, located to the north in El Toro, which was the area's namesake before it separated into multiple cities (Zimmerman 1981).

In 1962, the area began to transition from agricultural fields and ranches to a senior residential community. Ross Cortese, owner of Rossmoor

Corporation, developer of the planned community Leisure World Seal Beach, realized California lacked communities and amenities solely for individuals over the age of 52 (City of Laguna Woods 2024). Cortese had collaborated with the University of Southern California (Rossmoor-Cortese Institute for the Study of Retirement and Aging) in sponsoring a study about "what older people wanted – their needs, hopes, and plans, the kind of environment they would want, the type of social activities and hobbies they would be interested in, and above all, their health needs and medical requirements," as explained by Leisure World Laguna Hills historian Tracey E. Strevey (Tracy E. Strevey and Associates 1989). Cortese identified 3,000 acres of land within Moulton Ranch in southern Orange County. Consequently, he purchased a portion of Moulton Ranch along US Highway 101 (later known as Interstate 5) and created a second Leisure World community "to supply the basic needs of life for people aged 52 and older; create a serene atmosphere of beauty; and provide security, recreation, and religious facilities – then leave the living to the individual" (City of Laguna Woods 2024).

Although the land was available, it had no sanitation or water services, a factor that distinguished it from Cortese's Leisure World at Seal Beach. After a failed attempt at coordinating access to such services with the City of Santa Ana, the County of Orange developed a community zoning ordinance that enabled the Rossmoor Corporation to file for permits. In addition, the Rossmoor Corporation established water and sanitation service subsidiaries known as Rossmoor Water Company and Rossmoor Sanitation Incorporated (later known as Rossmoor Sanitation District). During the planning of Leisure World Laguna Hills, the District was a wholesaler of water to ranches (Tracy E. Strevey and Associates 1989), although the District eventually agreed to provide wholesale water to the Rossmoor's related Water and Sanitation arms. Reclaimed water from the sanitation district was to be used to irrigate the community's golf course (Tracy E. Strevey and Associates 1989).

In 1964, Leisure World Laguna Hills marketed its first units, which sold in less than two hours after they were listed, at prices ranging between $12,000 and $24,000 (City of Laguna Woods 2024; Laguna Woods Village 2024). This initial development was located along Interstate 5 between Paseo De Valencia and Moulton Parkway where the Moulton Ranch House originally sat and also included the golf course across El Toro Road (NETR Online 2024). In 1968, the community reached 10,000 residents (Tustin News 1968). By 1972, Leisure World Laguna Hills expanded north and west along El Toro Road, and commercial development was constructed along the highway by 1980, when the city reached its current geographic limits (NETR Online 2024).

During the community's development, the prospect of incorporation first arose in 1971, but lingered until 1996, when the potential for a reduction in County of Orange services became a very real concern. Proponents of cityhood were successful in placing the issue of incorporation on the ballot for a special election on March 2, 1999, and on March 24, 1999, Laguna Woods officially became Orange County's 32nd city (City of Laguna Woods 2024). In 2005, Leisure World Laguna Hills was renamed Laguna Woods Village and continues today as a 55-and-up community (Laguna Woods History Center 2020).

Property History

At the turn of the 20th century, the site of the ACLS was located to the immediate northwest of Aliso Creek in a sparsely developed area of Orange County, south of the community of El Toro (USGS 1902). By 1902, El Toro was along the alignment of the Southern California Railroad's Surf Line, which trended southeast from Santa Ana, where the Southern Pacific Railroad had been extended. This railroad also passed through Myford, to the northeast of El Toro. An unnamed road trended southeast from the Myford area toward El Toro before heading further southward, to the west of the future site of the ACLS. The road then continued through mountainous terrain, generally alongside Aliso Creek, and eventually reached the Pacific Coast at Aliso Point. By 1942, development, including orchards, were present to the south of El Toro. In addition to the existing railroad alignment, U.S. Highway 101 was present and extended along a similar southeastward alignment through the area located to the south of El Toro and north of the subject site. To the south of the highway, some properties had been developed alongside the road that followed Aliso Creek to the west of the subject site, while the subject site does not appear to have been developed or near any other developments (USGS 1942).

By 1947, land to the immediate west of the subject site had been used for agricultural purposes, with cultivated areas appearing to the west of the future ACLS site. Aerial photography shows the subject site is located to the immediate northwest of what had been the location of a sharp switchback turn in Aliso Creek (County of Orange Archives 1947, Figure 3). This portion of the creek appears to have been altered and eventually bridged by Avenida Sevilla during the development of Leisure World Laguna Hills in the early 1960s, which occurred during the same period as construction of the ACLS. The ACLS was constructed in 1965, and by 1968, was situated in a primarily residential area of the Leisure World community, with housing to the immediate north, to the south opposite Avenida Sevilla, and to the south-southeast opposite Aliso Creek (UCSB 1968, Figure 4).

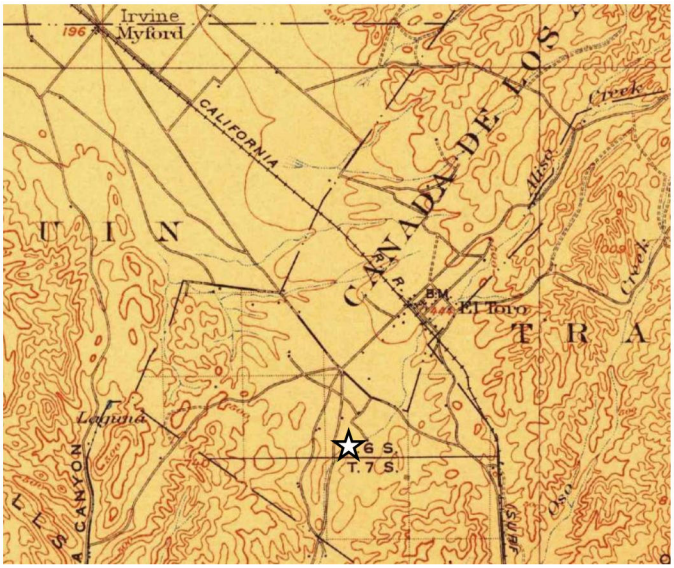


Figure 1. Future location of ACLS identified with a white star on the *Corona, California Quadrangle* map, 1902 (USGS 1902, annotated by Rincon)

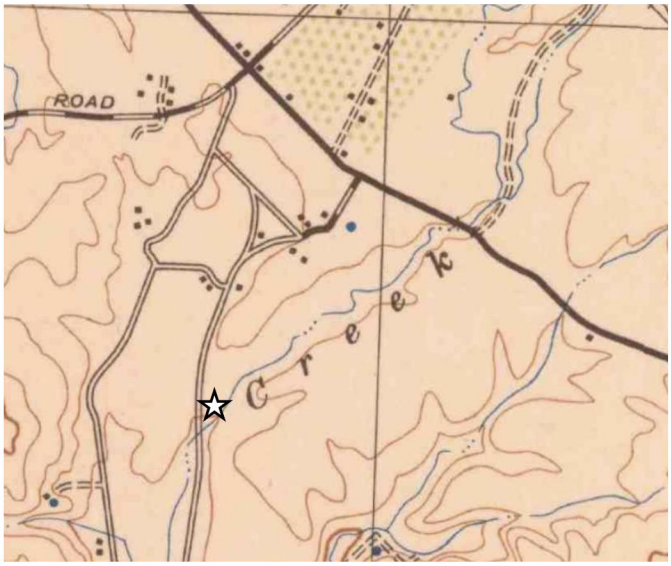


Figure 2. Future location of ACLS identified with a white star on the *Santiago Peak, California Quadrangle* map, 1942 (USGS 1942, annotated by Rincon)

Figure 3. Future location of ACLS identified with a white arrow on a 1947 aerial photograph (County of Orange 1947, annotated by Rincon)

Figure 4. ACLS identified with a white arrow on a 1968 aerial photograph (UCSB 1968, annotated by Rincon)

As-built construction plans from 1965 show the lift station was a six-sided, enclosed facility with an ornate entrance gate made of scrolled metal at the existing entrance gate location (Toups Engineering Inc. 1965, Figure 5 and Figure 6). The existing staircase was depicted with its existing steel pole railings. Beyond a generator located in the western corner of the station, none of the additional existing structures within the lift station (electrical room, generator, emergency pumping equipment) were depicted with the lift station on the 1965 plans.

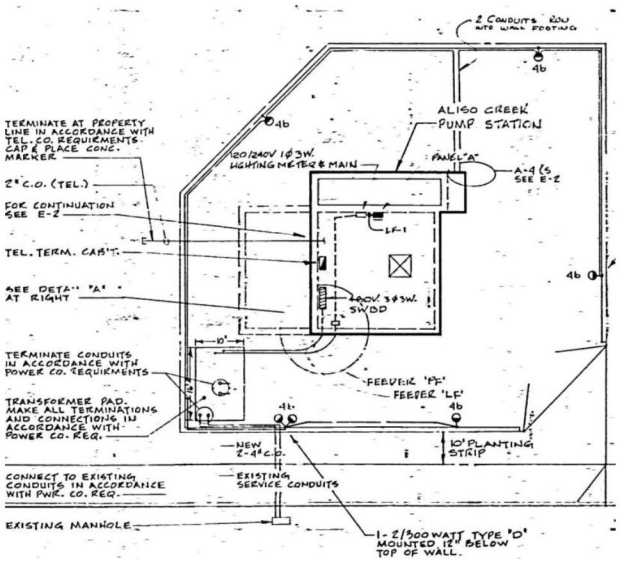


Figure 5. Site plan of lift station, depicted on as-built plans, 1965 (Toups Engineering Inc. 1965)

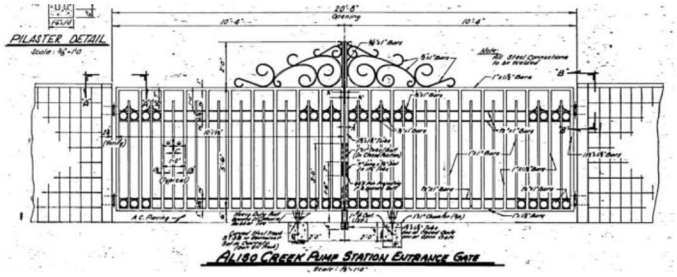


Figure 6. Original entrance gate, depicted on as-built plans, 1965 (Toups Engineering Inc. 1965)

Plans related to improvements of the lift station for Laguna Hills Sanitation, Inc. were prepared by the firm PRC Toups, a successor firm of Toups Engineering Inc., (TEI) in 1983, under the direction of engineer David L. Hunt. These plans indicate that extensive modification of the lift station's pumping equipment was planned, including modification of the original four-pump system and some alteration of paving within the northwestern area of the station (PRC Toups 1983). In 2001, a motor and pump rotating elements in the dry pit area were replaced, electrical and lighting work was completed, and two access hatches were installed in the central area of the lift station (ASL Consulting Engineers 2001). In mid-2010, ETWD also installed the existing trailer-mounted portable pump above grade for emergency backup (ETWD 2024). Several modifications and upgrades to the lift station's pumping system have been made since its original construction in 1965. Since the lift station's origination, it has remained located in a primarily residential area, with no apparent significant changes to its immediate setting (UCSB 1968 and 1977; NETR 1985 and 2024; County of Orange Archives 1990).

El Toro Water District (ETWD)

Before the formation of the District, local landowners in the region of present-day Laguna Woods, Orange County, pumped water from wells for both agricultural and domestic uses (El Toro Water District 2024). The District was formed in 1960 and provides domestic water, recycled water, and sanitary sewer utility services to a population of over 50,000 in a service area that includes portions of the cities of Aliso Viejo, Lake Forest, Laguna Hills, Mission Viejo, and all the city of Laguna Woods (El Toro Water District 2024). At the time of its foundation, the District operated as a wholesaler of water and to other water supplying entities that served a population of less than 200 people across a 4,750-acre area, a portion of which included citrus groves and other agricultural uses (El Toro Water District 2024). During the early 1960s, the District, along with other water districts in the region of Orange County, planned the construction of water facilities to support ongoing community development. During this period, George H. Veeh was president of the District (*The Register* 1962).

Following authorization of a bond to finance a share of the construction of an aqueduct, water filtration plant, reservoir, and planned expansion of the distribution system, bids for the construction of a 300,000-gallon water treatment plant to serve Leisure World Laguna Hills were solicited in 1963. The aqueduct would carry water from The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (El Toro Water District 2024). The plant was completed later in the same year and its capacity was reported to provide enough potable water for roughly 100,000 people (The Register 1963a). Water from the Colorado River was conveyed to the plant via the related Santiago Aqueduct. During the same period, the District was planning construction of the related El Toro Reservoir, which was completed in 1967 (El Toro Water District 2024). A historical newspaper also noted that in addition to the plant near El Toro, Leisure World expected to receive water from the Moulton Niguel Water District (The Register 1963b). The District also constructed a water recycling treatment plan in Laguna Woods in 1963.

In 1972, the District joined five other public water districts and the City of Laguna Beach and formed the Aliso Water Management Agency (AWMA). This entity was formed to resolve concerns relating to sewage disposal. AWMA developed a regional treatment plant near Laguna Niguel Regional Park and the Aliso Creek Ocean Outfall in Laguna Beach in 1982 (El Toro Water District 2024). In 1983, the District acquired the Laguna Hills Water Company and Laguna Hills Sanitation, Inc. This resulted in the District transitioning to service as a water retailer. In the more recent past, the District completed replacement of its Water Recycling Plant in 1998. Additional projects have included phased expansion of El Toro Reservoir, the

opening of an Emergency Operation Center, additional expansion of the newer Water Recycling Plant, and construction of additional recycled water pipelines (El Toro Water District 2024).

Lift Station Property Type

Lift stations, also referred to as sewage pumps, enable sewage to be conveyed to desired locations in cases where gravity flow is not able to be utilized. Typically, lift stations appear in low-lying areas or hilly areas. From the lift station, sewage would be collected and pumped through a force main to a sewer main at a higher elevation operating under a gravity flow (JRP Historical Consulting LLC and AECOM 2023). The *Drinking Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities in California: Historic Context and Research Design for National Register Evaluation* provides the following description of typical lift station/sewage pump station features:

> A sewage pumping station consisted of a storage well, two or more pumps, and the engines required to operate them. Storage was necessary as pumps operated at a continual rate while sewage inflow varied with the time of day, day of the week, and other factors. Adequate storage capacity also allowed for pumps to be taken offline for maintenance. Pumps could be submerged within the storage well, but it was often preferable to locate them in an adjacent dry well to facilitate servicing. Screens at the sewage inlets removed large materials that could clog or damage pumps, but smaller materials including toilet paper and organic solids were allowed to pass through as these created odor problems at the stations if retained. Centrifugal pumps were favored over reciprocating pumps as they were less likely to clog from the smaller bits of trash. Any type of motor could be used to operate the pump, but electrical motors became standard as they were the easiest to automate.
>
> Sewage pumps generally operated automatically by way of a switch connected to a float within the storage well. When the sewage rose above a certain level, the rising float started the pump, and it operated continually until the sewage fell back below the trigger level. If the sewage continued to rise during pumping, another float would trigger a second pump into operation. A third pump might be present as an emergency reserve and to add additional pumping capacity along lines with high peak flows.
>
> A properly maintained sewage pump plant would produce little odor and thus could be located wherever most convenient. Smaller plants could be contained in below ground vaults, while larger plants frequently had a motor room above ground and pumps below. Early pumping stations were crude, consisting of a wood or brick-lined tank, with a pump mounted on a platform above, and the whole system enclosed in a corrugated metal building. Greater attention was given to the stations as they started to encroach on residential neighborhoods. Some pumping stations constructed in the 1920s adhered to the City Beautiful movement and often featured Neoclassical or period revival design elements and landscaped grounds to emphasize the dignity of municipal service. One design manual argued that "such structures tend to remove the popular prejudice from sewerage and to arouse interest in sewerage questions." In other cases, pump stations were designed to blend in with their surroundings. A pump station of the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts near the Palos Verdes Peninsula, for example, was set below ground and landscaped above with a pergola that hid ventilation outlets. Likewise, when Long Beach constructed 14 new pump stations, the city disguised some as common stucco bungalows and built another into the central pier of a canal bridge.

Toups Engineering, Inc. (TEI)

The ACLS was designed by Toups Engineering, Inc. (TEI). The firm was established in 1958 by civil engineer John M. Toups (1926–2018). Prior to establishing the firm, Toups had worked for the California Division of Highways in 1949 and worked on an early freeway construction project in Los Angeles. Afterwards, he worked for nearly two years with the Santa Paula Water District in Ventura County. In 1956, he began working for Orange County Water District. During his time with Orange County Water District, Toups participated in a major project to pump freshwater into depleted wells to combat seawater infiltration. In 1958, Toups founded TEI and would lead the firm through a period of expansion during the 1960s. The firm was responsible for the engineering of Phases 1 and 2 of Leisure World Laguna Hills (i.e., roads, grading, stormwater drainage, water supply, and sanitation facilities) and specialized in land planning and subdivisions, municipal engineering and traffic, water supply treatment, sewer systems, water reclamation, and hydrology (*Ventura County Star* 1965; *Los Angeles Times* 1967). In an oral history interview conducted in 2009, Toups noted his firm's work as Leisure World Laguna Hills was "probably the biggest" client the firm had, in terms of a project's impact on the firm's growth. TEI ended up taking over planning and engineering the community's development following a falling out between Ross Cortese and the land use planning firm he had hired to start the project (Computer History Museum 2009). Leisure World Laguna Hills provided enough work for over 50 staff at TEI, as noted by Toups. By 1970, the company had additional Southern California offices in Ontario, Laguna Hills, and Ventura, and opened an office in Dublin, California (*Contra Costa Times* 1970; *Anaheim Bulletin* 1970).

In 1970, TEI was acquired by Planning Research Corporation. Planning Research Corporation was founded by physicist Dr. Robert Krueger, who had worked for the Rand Corporation and partners in 1954. From 1970 to 1973, John M. Toups continued to serve as president of TEI, as it operated

as a subsidiary of Planning Research Corporation. In 1974, he relinquished his role as president to become a senior vice president of Planning Research Corporation and oversaw Planning Research Corporation's work in urban planning and engineering (Anaheim Bulletin 1974). In 1978, he became CEO of Planning Research Corporation after a series of corporate leadership changes (Computer History Museum 2009). During this new phase in his career, Toups relocated to the Washington, D.C. region and became a prominent executive associated with information technology services for government clientele. In the 1980s, Planning Research Corporation's work shifted more heavily toward technology services and went through a series of mergers with Litton Industries and Northrop Grumman (Computer History Museum 2009). In his later career, Toups was a benefactor who advocated for the establishment of an engineering school at George Mason University. By 2018, the year of his death, the engineering department at that university had named its Engineering Department's laboratory in honor of Toups (George Mason University 2018).

The as-built plans prepared for the ACLS in 1965 were signed by TEI civil engineer, Lawrence R. Williams (1930–2023). Williams was listed as a vice president of the company as of 1967. Limited documentation of Williams' career was found through research of historical newspapers and documentation of TEI. Williams appears to have been born in Los Angeles and earned a civil engineering degree from Santa Clara University around 1950 (Brown Colonial Mortuary 2023). In 1967, Williams appears to have been leading studies related to water reclamation (*Independent* 1967). A date of retirement for Williams was not found. He and his family resided near Yosemite National Park for 17 years before returning to Southern California in his later years (Brown Colonial Mortuary 2023).

Evaluation

The ACLS is recommended ineligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) due to a lack of historical and architectural significance.

NRHP and CRHR

Criterion A/1 (Events)
The ACLS is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP/CRHR under Criterion A/1. The Drinking Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities in California Historic Context and Research Design for National Register Evaluation lift station notes "a drinking water or wastewater system may qualify for listing in the national and/or state register under Criterion A/1 if it has demonstrably significant association with an important historic event, trend, or theme […] this requires determining if a water system feature had historic importance above and beyond fulfilling its ordinary role of or purifying water or disposing sewage…" (JRP Historical Consulting LLC and AECOM 2023). The ACLS was built in 1965 during development of the Leisure World Laguna Hills community, which is now known as the Laguna Woods Village and is located in present-day Laguna Woods. Leisure World Laguna Hills was a pioneering community in terms of its development as an age-restricted development for residents 52 years of age and older. The community's developer, Rossmoor Corporation, also developed a smaller and earlier Leisure World community in Seal Beach. However, Leisure World Laguna Hills appears to have been the more noteworthy community within the company's body of work and was developed, in part, through consultation with scholars at the University of Southern California, who researched the preferences of potential middle- and senior-age residents. The former Leisure World Laguna Hills, now in present-day Laguna Woods, does not appear to have been subject to a formal study to determine its potential historical significance to patterns of community development and planning since its construction between the early and late 1960s. As a lift station, the subject property was developed by an affiliated entity, Rossmoor Sanitation District (first known as Rossmoor Sanitation Incorporated), as part of development of the community. However, the lift station's role as a support facility within the community does not appear to stand out individually in the context of community development. The community was developed with housing, roadways, and infrastructure for electricity, water supply, and sewage removal, while the lift station's establishment has not been identified as having been a major milestone or novel development in the history of water conveyance and waste management. Research did not identify any events that occurred at the property that are of historic significance. Although currently owned and operated by the District, the lift station originated as part of another utility and was incorporated into the District's facilities in the mid-1980s, when the District acquired Rossmoor Sanitation District. Therefore, the ACLS is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP/CRHR under Criterion A/1.

Criterion B/2 (Persons)
Research conducted for the present study did not suggest that any individual associated with the ACLS has made significant historical contributions. The station originated as a facility that supported sanitation and conveyance of sewage within Rossmoor Sanitation District's system and continues to be a facility where employees of its current owner, ETWD, visit and work as part of routine maintenance and operation of the lift station. However, no individual persons were found to have strong or direct association to the property, including Ross Cortese, whose achievements as a developer in Orange County would not be represented by a lift station property type. Therefore, the ACLS is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP/CRHR under Criterion B/2.

Criterion C/3 (Architecture)
The ACLS does not appear to be individually significant as a property that embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction; possesses high art values; or represents an important work of a master. The lift station retains its original perimeter wall, entrance oriented to Avenida Sevilla, and setting within a residential area. Like many lift stations situated in residential areas, the station's design features a subordinate scale, modest materials, and perimeter landscaping that reduces its visual presence within the immediate area. The property retains its

original, six-sided perimeter walls and entrance location, but does not feature its original ornate gate or other features that would enable it to be representative of an identified architectural style. Pumping and electrical equipment has been replaced and upgraded over time as the need for increased conveyance capacity and efficiency arose. The lift station was designed by the firm TEI, which was founded by respected civil engineer John M. Toups in 1958. The station's 1965 as-built drawings were signed by civil engineer and one-time TEI vice president, Lawrence R. Williams. Research of the firm's history and body of work, and the careers of Toups and Williams indicates that John M. Toups was considered a prominent civil engineer in Orange County during his career and went on to become a leader of PRC, while Lawrence R. Williams was a lesser-known civil engineer. Leisure World Laguna Hills was a major project for TEI and enabled the firm to expand and build a strong reputation for its role in the community's development. However, the lift station alone does not represent an individually significant work of John M. Toups because he is not known to have played a major part in the lift station's design and construction. Rather, the broader development of the community supported by the lift station would potentially contain features that express aspects of the firm's engineering expertise collectively. As a project that appears to have been led by Lawrence R. Williams, the lift station has not been identified as the work of a master. Furthermore, the building does not possess high artistic value because it does not exhibit artistic qualities that are considered the aesthetic ideal of a particular style or design movement. Therefore, the ACLS is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP/CRHR under Criterion C/3.

Criterion D/4 (Information Potential)
The built environment of the subject property is not likely to yield valuable information that will contribute to our understanding of human history because the property is not and never was the principal source of information pertaining to significant events, people, architectural style, or industrial buildings constructed in the mid- to late 20th century. Therefore, the property is recommended ineligible for listing under NRHP/CRHR Criterion D/4.

In summary, the ACLS is recommended ineligible for listing in the NRHP and CRHR under all criteria due to lack of significance.

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