

APPENDIX F
CULTURAL RESOURCES REPORT

CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

UPPER SANTA ANA RIVER WASH LAND MANAGEMENT and HABITAT
CONSERVATION PLAN
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

LSA

January 19, 2005

CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

UPPER SANTA ANA RIVER WASH LAND MANAGEMENT and HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Prepared for:

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY	1
INTRODUCTION	3
NATURAL SETTING	9
HYDROLOGY	10
BIOLOGY	10
GEOLOGY	10
CULTURAL SETTING	11
PREHISTORY	11
ETHNOGRAPHY	12
HISTORY	13
METHODS	16
RECORDS SEARCH	16
FIELD SURVEY	16
RESULTS	16
RECORDS SEARCH	16
NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTIES	21
FIELD SURVEY	21
SIGNIFICANCE EVALUATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	25
NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTIES	26
IMPACT AREAS	26
ALTERNATIVES 1 AND 3	27
ALTERNATIVE 2	28
SUMMARY	31
REFERENCES	33

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A:	RECORDS SEARCH LETTER
APPENDIX B:	SITE RECORDS
APPENDIX C:	PLOTTED CULTURAL RESOURCES

FIGURES AND TABLES

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1:	Regional and Project Location	4
Figure 2:	Alternatives 1 and 3 – Proposed Land Uses	5
Figure 3:	Alternative 2 – Proposed Land Use.....	6
Figure 4:	Existing Land Uses.....	7

LIST OF TABLES

Management Summary Table A:	Potential Impacts to Cultural Resources Proposed Land Uses 1 and 3	2
Management Summary Table B:	Potential Impacts to Cultural Resources Proposed Land Use 2.....	2
Table A:	Alternatives Matrix.....	8
Table B:	Cultural Resource Studies Conducted within Wash Planning Area	17
Table C:	Cultural Resources within Wash Planning Area	19
Table D:	Potential Impacts to Cultural Resources Proposed Land Uses 1 and 3	27
Table E:	Potential Impacts to Cultural Resources Proposed Land Use 2.....	28

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

At the request of the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District (Water Conservation District) and the Bureau of Land Management, Palm Springs South Coast Field Office (BLM), LSA Associates, Inc. has conducted a Cultural Resource Assessment of the Upper Santa Ana River Wash Land Management and Habitat Conservation Plan (Wash Planning Area). The Wash Planning Area is located within the Santa Ana River upper wash area in southwestern San Bernardino County. The project site encompasses approximately 4,330 acres. The cultural resource assessment was completed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Four land use alternatives have been considered. The records search indicated that 41 cultural resource studies have been conducted within the project site. Eighty-one cultural resources were previously recorded within the Wash Planning Area boundaries. Sixty-three occur in non-impact zones within the project. Eighteen occur in potential impact areas within one of the four land use alternatives and were revisited and updated by LSA archaeologists. Site numbers CA-SBR-6087H, 6075H, and 6076H fall within the boundaries of Alternatives 1 and 3, are considered "historical resources" under CEQA, and will require testing and research as mitigation. Site numbers CA-SBR-5526H, 6006H, 6060H, 6061H, 6062H, 6068H, 6070H, 6079H, 6080H, and 6847H are all located within the boundaries of proposed Alternative 2, are considered "historical resources" under CEQA, and will require testing and research as mitigation. The testing, data recovery and archival research, if required, represent mitigation measures that will reduce impacts to a level less than significant. Site Numbers CA-SBR-6064h, 6074h, 6078h, 6088h, and 10184h have clearly been destroyed by previous mining or flood control activities and require no further consideration (see Management Summary Tables A and B, next page).

From a cultural resource perspective, Alternative 4, the "no project/existing conditions" option will not impact cultural resources. If that land use is adopted, no mitigation recommendations or management considerations further than this document are warranted. Alternatives 1 and 3 represent the next least destructive implementation of the any of the proposed actions. Only three cultural resources (all historic debris scatters) remain within the boundaries of Alternatives 1 and 3 as potential impact zones and could probably be avoided or mitigated with a minimum effort and cost. Alternative 2 will impact more and larger cultural resources that are likely to contain more significant data. Among others, this includes the Civilian Conservation Core (CCC) Cone Camp site, which appears eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register). If Alternative 2 is implemented, there is a greater likelihood that further phases of cultural resource management will be necessary.

Management Summary Table A – Potential Impacts to Cultural Resources in Proposed Land Uses 1 and 3

Site #	Type	Mitigation Recommendations
CA-SBR-6074H	Historic Debris	None (Site Destroyed)
CA-SBR-6075H*	Historic Debris	Subsurface Testing/ Archival Research/ Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-6076H*	Historic Debris	Subsurface Testing/ Archival Research/ Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-6078H	Stone Foundation/ Historic Debris	None (Site Destroyed)
CA-SBR-6087H*	Historic Debris	Subsurface Testing/ Archival Research/ Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-6088H	Farmstead	None (Site Destroyed)

*Pending a formal evaluation, sites considered "historical resources" under CEQA, due to potential significance

Management Summary Table B – Potential Mining Impacts to Cultural Resources in Proposed Land Use 2

Site #	Type	Mitigation Recommendations
CA-SBR-5526H*	Orchard/ Building Foundations	Delineate Boundaries to Assess Whether Site is Within Impact Area/ Subsurface Testing, Archival Research, Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-6006H*	Cone Camp	Subsurface Testing/ Archival Research/ Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-6060H*	Historic Debris	Subsurface Testing/ Archival Research/ Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-6061H*	Historic Debris	Subsurface Testing/ Archival Research/ Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-6062H*	Historic Debris	Subsurface Testing/ Archival Research/ Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-6064H	Historic Debris	None (Site Destroyed)
CA-SBR-6068H*	Historic Debris	Subsurface Testing/ Archival Research/ Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-6070H*	Historic Debris	Subsurface Testing/ Archival Research/ Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-6079H*	Historic Debris	Subsurface Testing/ Archival Research/ Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-6080H*	Historic Debris	Subsurface Testing/ Archival Research/ Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-6847H*	Historic Debris	Subsurface Testing/ Archival Research/ Data Recovery (if required)
CA-SBR-10184H*	Historic Debris	None (Site Destroyed)

*Pending a formal evaluation, sites considered "historical resources" under CEQA, due to potential significance

INTRODUCTION

LSA Associates, Inc. (LSA) is under contract to the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District (Water Conservation District) to conduct a Cultural Resource Assessment of the Upper Santa Ana River Wash Land Management and Habitat Conservation Plan (Wash Planning Area; Figure 1). This has taken place in partial fulfillment of requirements for an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), an amendment to the South Coast Resource Management Plan for the Santa Ana River Area of Critical Environmental Concern. The cultural resource assessment was completed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code (PRC) Chapter 2.6, Section 21083.2 and 21084.1, and California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 15064.5.

The plan is a multi-faceted, multi-agency, and multi-property owner project consisting of seven main components. These include:

1. The expansion of two existing sand and gravel mining operations, and the approval of reclamation plans for the closure of the facilities following extraction activities;
2. The continuation and expansion of existing water conservation facilities, which also provide for flood management and habitat conservation;
3. The creation of a habitat conservation area which includes water conservation and an existing habitat preservation area;
4. The continuation of a flood management program related to the Santa Ana River and its tributaries;
5. The continuation and, in some cases, the expansion of utilities, roadways, water supply corridors, and facilities;
6. The exchange of public land under the jurisdiction of the BLM with land owned by the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District; and
7. The continuation of existing trails and the construction/reservation of new hiking, bicycling, and equestrian trails.

The Plan provides for the coordination and accommodation of existing and anticipated future activities in the Wash Planning Area. The final approved Plan, its associated actions and permits, and the related environmental review documentation will provide the necessary information for jurisdictional approvals and other discretionary actions for the described activities to proceed.

In order to accommodate the concerns of the diverse parties involved in implementing the current plan, four alternatives have been prepared. These are summarized in the Alternatives Matrix in Table A, and delineated in Figures 2 through 4. For further discussion on Land Use Alternatives' relationship to pertinent cultural resources, see Significance Evaluations and Recommendations section of this report. For the purpose of assessing cultural resources, Alternative 1 and 3 occupy the same footprint.