

APPENDIX D  
Cultural Resources Survey Report

# Cultural Resources Assessment of Two Proposed Well Sites near the City of Ridgecrest, Kern County, California



## *Submitted to:*

Indian Wells Valley Water  
District  
500 W. Ridgecrest Blvd  
P.O. Box 1329  
Ridgecrest Ca 93555

## *Submitted by:*



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**August 2011**

# **Cultural Resources Assessment of Two Proposed Well Sites Near the City of Ridgecrest Kern County, California**

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*Prepared For:*

**INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT  
500 W. Ridgecrest Blvd  
P.O. Box 1329  
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*U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute Quadrangle:*  
Inyokern (1972)

*Cultural Resources Identified:*  
Newly Recorded: IWW-001

*Area Surveyed:* Less than One Acre

*Keywords:* Kawaiisu, Cultural Resources Survey, Ethnohistory, History, Prehistory, Ridgecrest, Kern County, Indian Wells Valley

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

A cultural resources survey was conducted west of the city of Ridgecrest in Kern County, California in June, 2011 in support of an Indian Wells Valley Water District water-supply improvement Project. The proposed Project includes improvements to two existing wells (Wells 18 and 34), the construction of two new wells (Wells 35 and 36), and the construction of a pipeline to serve Well 36 (Project Areas). Situated south of Bowman Road, existing Wells 18 and 34 are to the west and east of Brown Road, respectively. Proposed Well 35 would be located on the south side of Bowman Road, within a 4-acre area comprised of Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 341-234-02 and -03. Proposed Well 36 would be located in the extreme southwest corner of APN of 352-250-33, located at the southeast corner of Las Flores Avenue and N. Victor Street. The proposed pipeline would extend north from proposed Well 36 along North Victor Street and tie in to the existing pipeline at Well 31 near Drummond Avenue. The purpose of this investigation was to identify prehistoric and historic resources that could be impacted by the proposed Project, pursuant to the terms of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

A records search was conducted at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center located at California State University, Bakersfield in May 2011. Following the records search, a field survey of the Project Areas was completed by qualified archaeologists from ECORP Consulting, Inc. The field survey was restricted to the proposed location of Wells 35 and 36, as no ground disturbing activities are proposed at Wells 18 or 34.

As a result of the records search and field survey, one previously-recorded (P-15-012543) and one newly-recorded site (IWW-001) were identified. Site P-15-012543 was identified approximately 100 feet (30 meters) north of the northern terminus of the proposed pipeline serving Well 36. The site is described as remnants of a nineteenth century wagon trail, and will not be impacted by the proposed Project.

Newly-recorded site IWW-001 consists of a sparse, historic-period refuse deposit containing cans and glass fragments. The site measures 118 feet (east-west) by 43 feet (north-south) and is located within the northern portion of the proposed Well 35 Project Area. No cultural resources were identified within, or immediately adjacent to, the Well 36 Project Area.

IWW-001 appears to represent a single-episode roadside dump of domestic refuse dating to the 1940s. It is recommended as not eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) because it does not have the potential to yield information important in history (CRHR Criterion 4). Therefore, IWW-001 is not a Historical Resource as defined by CEQA. Because there are no Historical Resources in the Project areas, the Project will not result in impacts on Historical Resources.

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

A cultural resources survey was conducted west of the City of Ridgecrest in Kern County, California in June, 2011 in support of an Indian Wells Valley Water District water-supply improvement Project (Project). The proposed Project includes improvements to two existing wells (Wells 18 and 34), the construction of two new wells (Wells 35 and 36), and the construction of a pipeline to serve Well 36 (Project Areas). The survey was conducted by ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP) in support of this Project, under contract to Indian Wells Valley Water District, pursuant to the terms in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

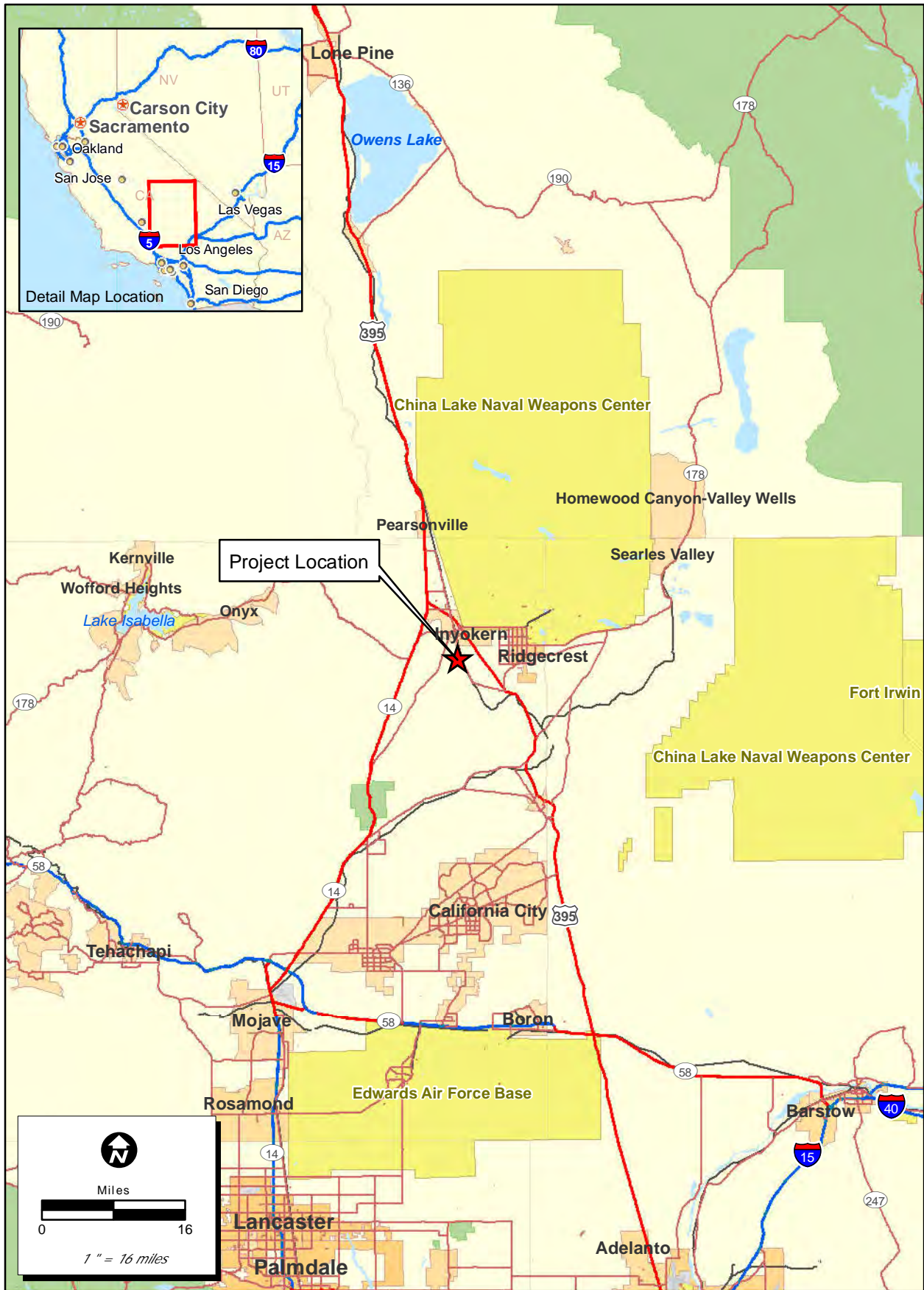
In order to identify any cultural resources within 1 mile (1600 meters) of the Project Areas, a cultural resources records search was conducted by an ECORP archaeologist using the California Historical Information System (CHRIS) at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) at California State University, Bakersfield. This report presents the methods and results of the records search and pedestrian survey that were conducted for the Project, along with management recommendations.

## **2.0 LOCATION AND SETTING**

Situated in the central portion of the Indian Wells Valley, the Project is located to the west of the City of Ridgecrest, and to the southwest of the community of Inyokern (Figure 1). Existing Wells 18 and 34 are to the west and east of Brown Road, respectively (Figure 2). No ground-disturbing activities are proposed at either of the exiting Well 18 or 34 locations. Ground disturbing activities are proposed at two locations, where the proposed wells (Well 35 and Well 36) will be installed (Figure 3).

The Well 35 Project Area is located at an elevation ranging from 2,530-2,538 feet above mean sea level (AMSL), on a four-acre parcel comprised of Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 341-234-02 and -03, south of West Bowman Road (Figure 4). The Project Area is bordered to the east by Star Place and to the south by Calsilco Avenue and an abandoned Southern Pacific Railroad line is about one-half mile to the west. As shown on the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 minute Inyokern SE (1972), California topographic quadrangle map, the Well 35 Project Area lies in the northwest quarter of Section 9, Township 27 South, Range 39 East of the Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian. The soil consists of a fine to medium grain sand. Vegetation consists of creosote, bursage, and low-lying desert grasses.

The Well 36 Project Area is located in the extreme southwest corner of APN of 352-250-33, at an elevation ranging from 2,446 feet to 2,451 feet AMSL (Figure 5). The Project Area is located southeast of the intersection of North Victor Street and Las Flores Avenue and is bordered to the south by Argus Avenue. As the location of Well 36 has been previously surveyed, the focus of the Well 36 Project Area survey is a water pipeline alignment commencing at the intersection of North Victor Street and Las Flores Avenue and extending north along North Victor Street for approximately 2,850 feet (see Figure 5). As shown on the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 minute Inyokern (1972), California topographic quadrangle map, the Project Area lies in the southwest quarter of Section 34 and extends north along the boundary between the northeast quarter of Section 33 and the northwest quarter of Section 34, and into the southeast quarter of Section 28, Township 26 South, Range 39 East of the Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian. The soil consists of a fine to medium grain sand. Vegetation consists of creosote, bursage, and low-lying desert grasses.



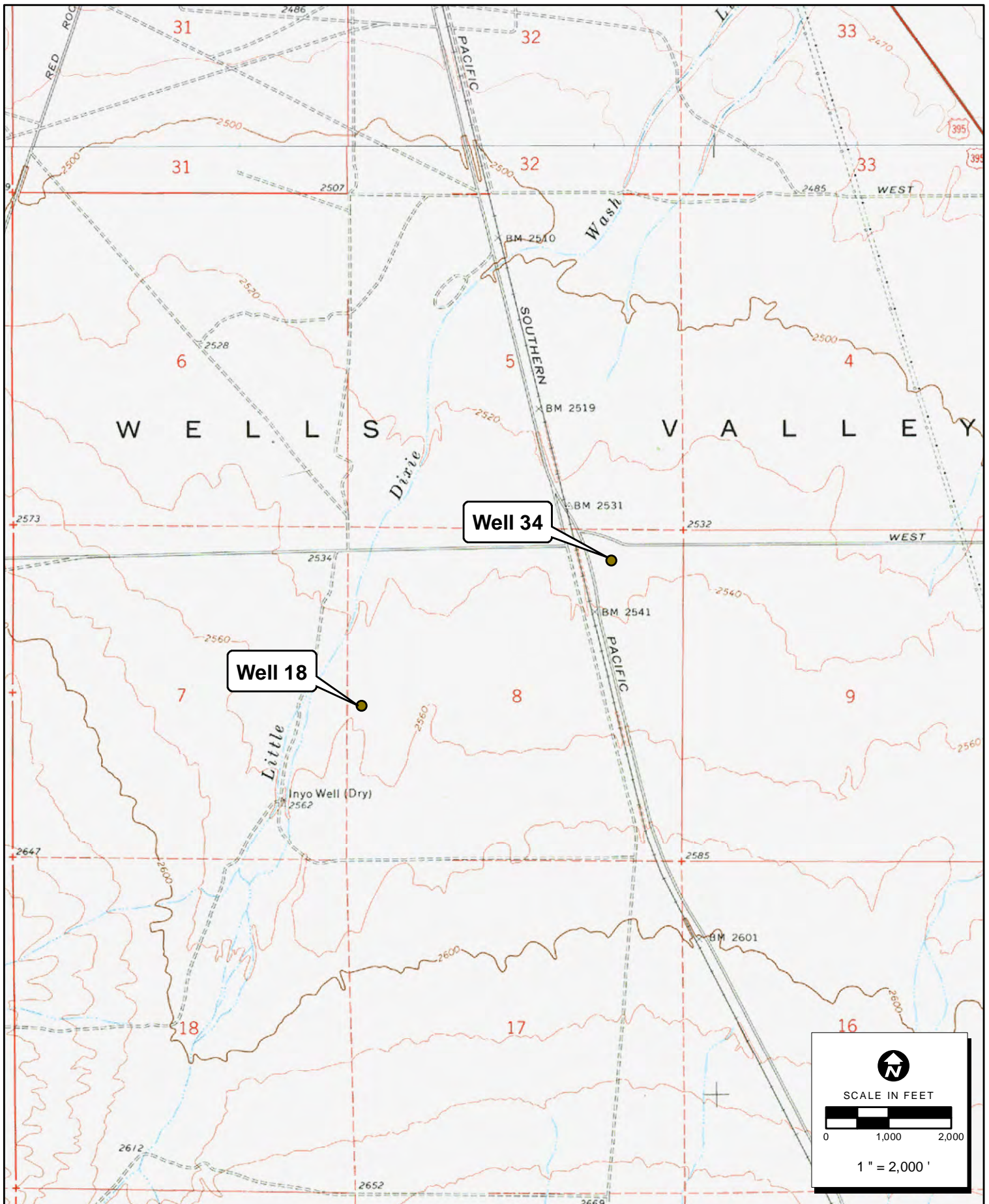
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Map Date: 5/20/2011

### Figure 1 Project Vicinity

2010-132 Indian Wells Valley Water District EIR



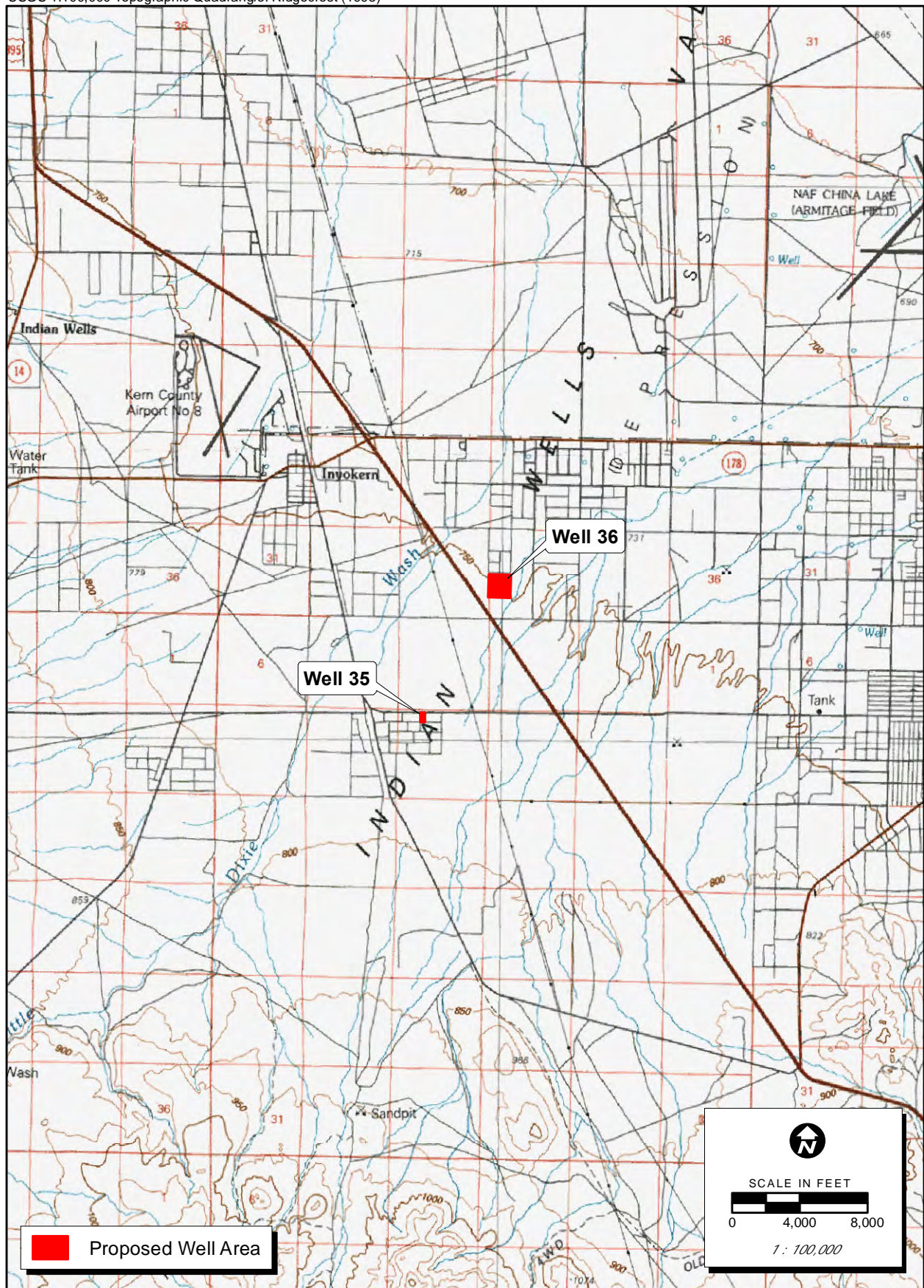


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Map Date: 9/8/2011

**Figure 2. Location of Wells 18 and 34**

2010-132 Indian Wells

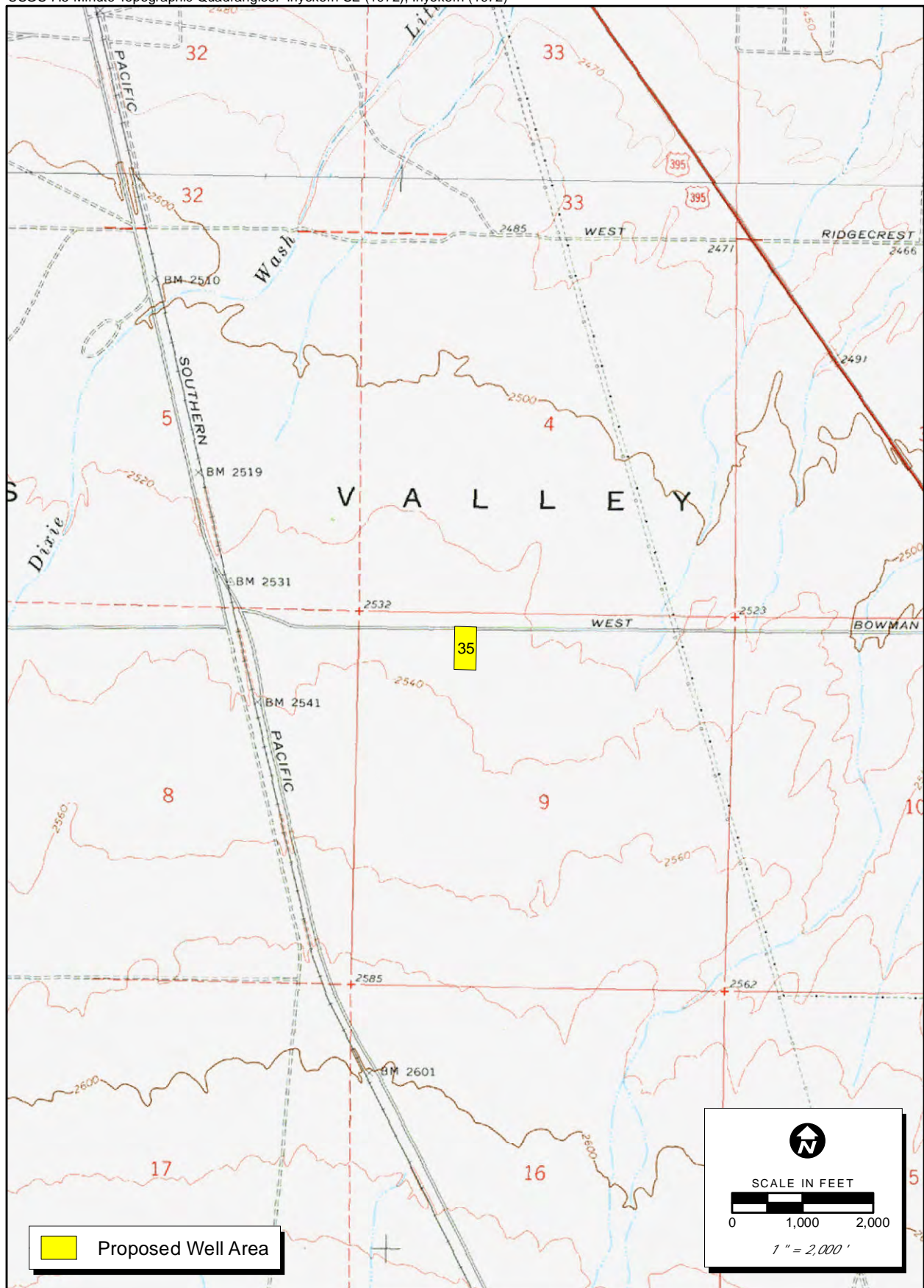


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Map Date: 8/17/2011

**Figure 3. Location of Wells 35 and 36**

2010-132.003 Indian Wells

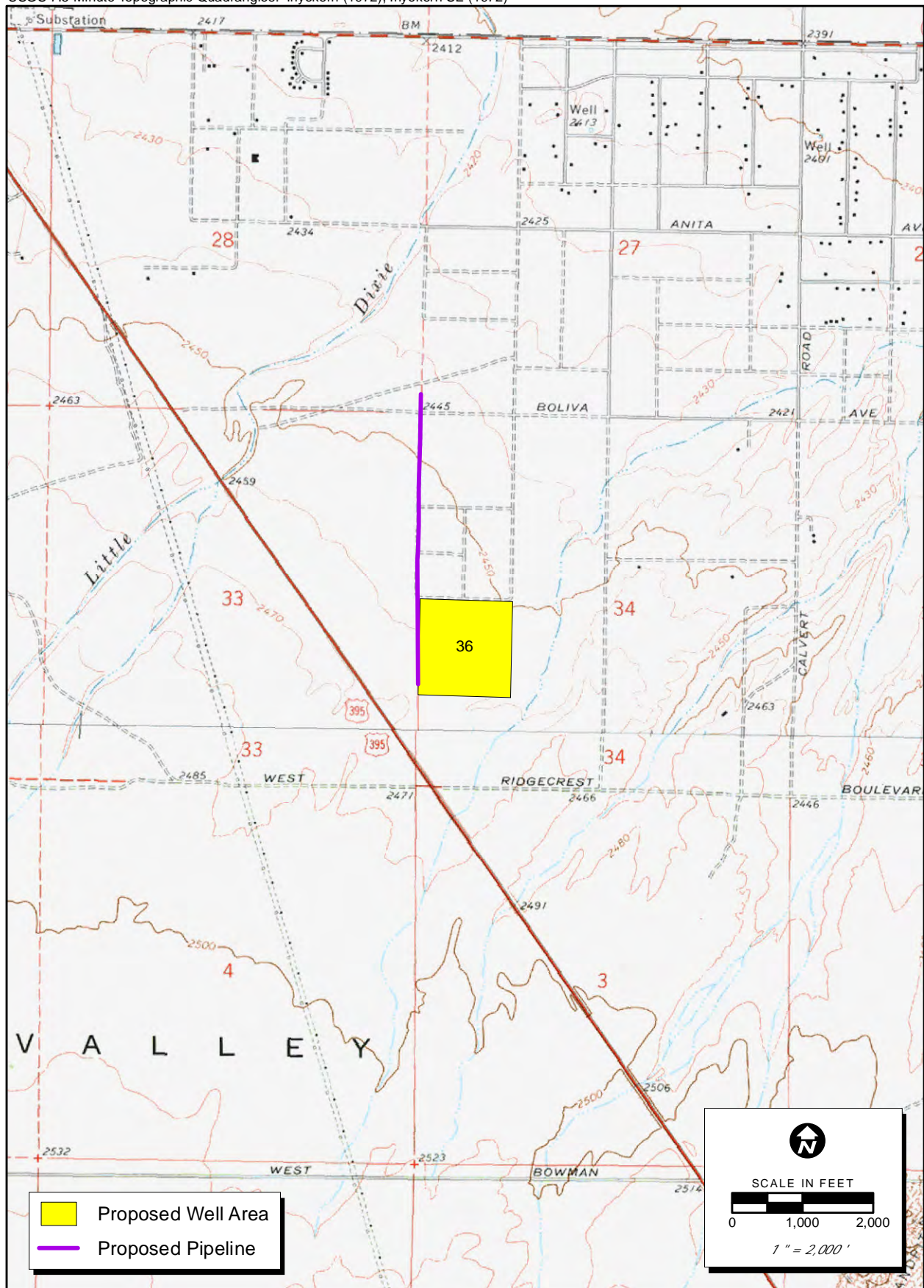


Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Well\_35.mxd (dwagon 8/17/2011)

Map Date: 8/17/2011

**Figure 4. Well 35 Location**

2010-132.003 Indian Wells



Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Well\_36.mxd (dwagon 8/17/2011)

Map Date: 8/17/2011

**Figure 5. Well 36 Location**

2010-132.003 Indian Wells

### 3.0 CULTURAL SETTING

#### 3.1 Prehistory

Two significant volumes on the prehistory of California, *The Archaeology of California* by Joseph and Kerry Chartkoff, and *California Archaeology* by Michael Moratto, were published in 1984. At that time, Warren (1984, in Moratto 1984) provided a modified version of his earlier (1980) Mojave Desert chronology. The 1984 version included six cultural periods marked primarily by projectile point types (Table 1).

**Table 1**  
**Cultural Sequences for the Mojave Desert Region, California**

<b>Cultural Complex</b>	<b>Approximate Time Period in Years B.C. and Calendar Years A.D.</b>	<b>Characteristic Artifacts</b>
Fluted Point, or Pleistocene Period	10,000 – 8,000 B.C.	Fluted points (Clovis)
Lake Mojave Period	8,000 – 5,000 B.C.	Stemmed points (Lake Mojave, Silver Lake)
Pinto Period	5,000 – 2,000 B.C.	Pinto and leaf-shaped points
Gypsum Period	2,000 B.C. – A.D. 500	Gypsum and Elko series points
Saratoga Spring Period	A.D. 500 – 1200	Rose Spring, Eastgate, Saratoga Spring points
Late Prehistoric, or Shoshonean Period	A.D. 1200 – Contact with European explorers ca. 1770	Desert Series points, ceramics

Adapted from Warren 1984; Warren 1980

New research has led to refinements of the prehistoric chronology of the Mojave Desert region since the early 1980s, including new applications of radiocarbon dating on marine shell and organic materials in sediments, improved understanding of obsidian hydration rates, and more detailed flaked stone technology profiles. This ongoing research has contributed new information that has enhanced understanding of the prehistoric chronology of the Mojave Desert region, a chronology that will most likely continue to be refined in the future. Sutton et al. (2007) discuss these refinements in depth, and present a slightly modified chronological sequence, which is, nonetheless, very similar to that of Warren (1984). Sutton et al. (2007) place their chronology in the context of climatic periods (Pleistocene, early Holocene, middle Holocene, and late Holocene) separated further by cultural complexes based upon technological advances. In addition to the cultural complexes, Sutton et al. (2007) include a hypothetical Pre-Clovis complex pre-dating 10,000 years B.C., for which there is little or no solid archaeological evidence in the Mojave Desert. They also propose a Deadman Lake complex roughly contemporaneous with the Pinto Period, based on artifact assemblages they contend are unique to the Twentynine Palms area. A brief discussion of the different cultural complexes is presented below in Table 2.

**Table 2**  
**Temporal Periods and Cultural Sequences for the Mojave Desert Region, California**

Temporal Period	Cultural Complex	Approximate Dating	Characteristic Artifacts
Pleistocene	Pre-Clovis (hypothetical)	Pre-10,000 B.C.	Unclear
	Fluted Point, or Pleistocene Period	10,000 – 8,000 B.C.	Fluted points (Clovis)
Early Holocene	Lake Mojave Period	8,000 – 6,000 B.C.	Stemmed points (Lake Mojave, Silver Lake)
	Pinto Period	7,000 – 3,000 B.C.	Pinto and leaf-shaped points
Middle Holocene	Deadman Lake (Provisional)		Contracting-stem and leaf-shaped points
	<i>Possible population hiatus</i>	<i>3,000 – 2,000 B.C.</i>	<i>Few sites or artifacts</i>
Late Holocene	Gypsum Period	2,000 B.C. – A.D. 200	Gypsum and Elko series points
	Saratoga Spring, or Rose Spring Period	A.D. 200 – 1100	Rose Spring, Eastgate, Saratoga Spring points
	Late Prehistoric, or Shoshonean Period	A.D. 1100 – Contact	Desert Series points, ceramics

Adapted from Sutton et al. 2007

### **The Fluted Point or Late Pleistocene Period – 10,000 to 8,000 B.C.**

The presence of humans in the Mojave Desert prior to 10,000 B.C. cannot be discounted, in the face of growing evidence of earlier occupation of other regions of North America. The oldest well-identified cultural complex in the Mojave Desert, however, is Clovis (ca. 10,000-8,000 B.C.), characterized by the long, fluted Clovis projectile point and Clovis-like points known as Great Basin Concave Base points (Basgall and Overly 2004:63-64). Reliable radiocarbon dates for organic material associated with fluted points in the Mojave Desert are lacking, but obsidian hydration has established that they have older relative ages than stemmed points from the same region. Only one possible Clovis occupation site has been found, at China Lake, while other fluted points have been recorded as isolated finds. Very little can be inferred about the

people who created these fluted points, except that they most likely lived in highly mobile small groups and camped near reliable sources of water. Fluted point finds are concentrated in the China Lake and Lake Thompson (predecessor of Rosamond, Rogers, and Buckhorn lakes) areas, which are known to have had significant stream runoff and to have been good water sources during the Pleistocene/Holocene Transition, continuing during the early Holocene (Sutton et al. 2007).

### **Lake Mojave Period (Early Holocene) – 8,000 to 5,000 BC**

The best-documented cultural complex in the region during the early Holocene is the Lake Mojave period, characterized by Great Basin Stemmed (Lake Mojave and Silver Lake) points, numerous bifaces including crescents, unifaces, and sometimes ground stone artifacts. Non-local lithic materials and shell beads in Lake Mojave assemblages indicate long foraging trips and/or trade with other regions. The small number of ground stone implements, and the lack of extensive wear on them, suggests that vegetal resources were not used heavily. As with the Fluted Point Period, social groups of the Lake Mojave Period appear to have been small, highly mobile, and attracted to a variety of environments where water was available. Interestingly, archaeofaunal data indicate a reliance on small game like rabbits, hares, rodents, and reptiles, rather than bigger game implied by the large projectile points. Lake Mojave Period artifacts have been mostly surface finds, making absolute dating by radiocarbon methods difficult (Sutton et al. 2007). Numerous Lake Mojave Period artifacts have been documented at Rosamond Lake (Edwards AFB), ancient Lake Mojave (Silver and Soda dry lakes), and on neighboring military installations such as Fort Irwin, China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS), and the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center at Twentynine Palms.

### **Pinto Period (Early to Middle Holocene) – 5,000 to 2,000 BC**

Previous investigators (e.g., Warren 1984) defined the Pinto Period as a response to Mid-Holocene climatic warming and desiccation in the Great Basin, including the Mojave Desert. In this scenario, the Pinto Period began after the Lake Mojave Period at about 5,000 B.C., corresponding roughly with the Holocene Maximum warming trend. At first, groups of hunter-gatherers adapted to the drying, warming conditions, possibly by abandoning the desert floor and occupying the higher, wetter margins for a thousand years or more. As the climate cooled again, the desert was repopulated as springs, streams, and shallow lakes reappeared (Warren 1984). Information gathered during the past two decades suggests that the Pinto Period began during the early Holocene and overlapped the Lake Mojave Period. Recently obtained radiocarbon dates from Pinto Basin, Little Lake, Fort Irwin, and Twentynine Palms indicate ages of at least 9,000 years for some Pinto sites (Sutton et al. 2007). Although there is still some debate about the inception of the Pinto complex, it is clear that it is probably older than had been previously thought.

Pinto artifact assemblages have less diversity of lithic materials than their Lake Mojave predecessors, suggesting a reduced range. At the same time, the presence of *Olivella* shell beads suggests that there was trade with coastal groups. Ground stone milling tools are much more prevalent than in Lake Mojave assemblages, indicating that extensive plant food processing began at the end of the early Holocene, before the beginning of the dry, warm conditions that affected the desert floor during the middle Holocene (Sutton et al. 2007).

### **Gypsum Period (2,000 BC to A.D. 500)**

Near the end of the middle Holocene, harsh climatic conditions associated with the Holocene Maximum warming trend (also known as the Altithermal) may have resulted in very low population densities, and even temporary abandonment, of large expanses of the Mojave Desert. Very few sites have been dated to a time span between about 3,000 and 2,000 B.C. that separates the Pinto and Gypsum complexes. The appearance of corner-notched (Elko), concave-base (Humboldt), and contracting-stemmed (Gypsum) projectile points in late Holocene sites of the western and northern Mojave signals the beginning of the Gypsum Period, as temperatures began to ameliorate during the First Neoglacial episode at the beginning of the late Holocene (Warren 1984; Sutton et al. 2007).

In addition to the characteristic projectile point types, Gypsum assemblages include leaf-shaped points, stone knives, flake scrapers, T-shaped drills, choppers, hammer stones, shaft smoothers, ornamental items, split-twig animal figures, and paint. Some of these items, along with the presence of rock art, suggest ritual activities. Manos, metates, mortars, and pestles are found also (Warren 1984; Sutton et al. 2007). Gypsum sites are generally smaller and more numerous than earlier components, and are spread over a wider variety of environments. Socio-economic contact with the California coast is indicated by the presence of shell beads. Gypsum Period sites show evidence of exploitation of split-hoofed animals, rabbits, hares, and rodents, as well as hard seeds and mesquite. Better technology and somewhat more complex social organization (compared to the previous Pinto population) probably helped peoples of the Gypsum complex adapt to the warming and drying conditions that began again after about 2,000 years ago. A more successful adaptation to the warm dry conditions is indicated because another population hiatus did not occur in the Mojave Desert during this period (Warren 1984; Sutton et al. 2007). By around 1,000 B.C., the Northern Uto-Aztecan peoples who had probably come from northern Mexico around the end of the Pinto Period had separated into Tubatulabalic, Hopic, Numic, and Takic language groups (Sutton et al. 2007).

### **Saratoga Spring or Rose Spring Period (Late Holocene) – A.D. 500 to 1200**

Although the climate was warmer at the beginning of the Saratoga Spring Period than it had been during the First Neoglacial episode, conditions were sufficiently mesic to support springs and streams in the Mojave Desert, and possibly even shallow perennial lake stands at some of the desert playas (Sutton et al. 2007). Archaeological data suggest a significant increase in population, especially in the western Mojave. Projectile points indicate that the bow and arrow were introduced to the Mojave Desert during the Saratoga Spring Period. While they probably do not indicate a major cultural change in the region (Warren 1984), they were a technological advance that may have improved hunting efficiency and increased the carrying capacity of the land, resulting in a rise in population (Sutton et al. 2007).

Saratoga Spring sites in the southern Mojave Desert reflect the influence of Hakataya culture from the lower Colorado River by the inclusion of buffware and brownware pottery sherds and Desert Side-Notched and Cottonwood points. Hakataya intrusion or influence probably extended as far north and west as the east side of Antelope Valley (Warren 1984). Anasazi pottery and turquoise mining sites indicate the presence and influence of Pueblo peoples in the eastern Mojave during the Saratoga Spring Period (Warren 1984). In the western Mojave, particularly Antelope Valley, the effects of Hakataya and Anasazi contact or intrusion appear to have been



minimal. Large village sites with cemeteries and well-developed middens, indicating long-term occupations, have been documented there. Among the artifacts found in Saratoga Spring sites of the Antelope Valley are steatite items and large numbers of shell beads, probably indicating trade with coastal groups (Warren 1984; Sutton et al. 2007).

The rise in temperature and return to xeric conditions and occasional severe droughts associated with the Medieval Climatic Anomaly affected roughly the second half of the Saratoga Spring Period, beginning around A.D. 700. Deteriorating climatic conditions in the Mojave Desert led to a population decline, and may have been partially responsible for bringing the Saratoga Spring complex to an end around A.D. 1100 (Sutton et al. 2007).

### **Late Prehistoric Period (Late Holocene) – A.D. 1200 to Contact (ca. 1770)**

The several tribes occupying the Mojave Desert at the time of contact with Europeans are believed to have had their genesis in the separate cultural complexes that developed during the Late Prehistoric Period (Warren 1984; Sutton et al. 2007). Toward the end of the Medieval Climatic Anomaly, the population of the Mojave continued a decline that had begun during the Saratoga Spring Period. Hakataya and Anasazi cultural influences remained in the southern and eastern parts of the region, respectively. By around A.D. 1000, the Numic speakers of the western Mojave Desert had differentiated into distinct language groups, one of which was the Southern Paiute, which spread eastward and occupied an area north of the Mojave River. The Chemehuevi branch of the Southern Paiute later moved south along the west side of the Colorado River as far as the Chuckwalla Valley. The Shoshone, moved into territory even farther north. South of the Mojave River, and in much of southern California, Takic-speaking groups were predominant (Sutton et al. 2007).

Late Prehistoric sites are abundant in the Mojave Desert, and range include lithic scatters, temporary campsites, and large villages with middens and cemeteries. Artifacts include Desert series projectile points, ground stone milling tools, shell beads, incised stones and pendants, and brownware and buffware ceramics. Obsidian was not used as frequently as during earlier periods. Faunal remains at archaeological sites indicate that deer, rabbits, hares, rodents, and reptiles were eaten, along with a wide variety of vegetal foods, indicated by ground stone grinding implements (Sutton et al. 2007). Trade, especially along the Mojave River and in the Antelope Valley, appears to have enabled the transport of resources over long distances, possibly mitigating against shortages and making a more sedentary, village-oriented existence possible during the Late Prehistoric Period (Warren 1984).

### **3.2 Ethnography**

The Project located in territory originally used by the Kawaiisu. Kawaiisu villages were located in the Piute Mountains at the southern end of the Sierra Nevada Range and the northern part of the Tehachapi Mountains. They also used temporary camps in the adjacent Mojave Desert where the Project Area is located (Zigmond 1986). The Kawaiisu spoke a language belonging to the Numic branch of the Uto-Aztecan language family while their neighbors to the south, the Kitanemuk and, closer to the coast, the Tatavium and the Gabrielino, spoke languages belonging to the Takic branch of the Uto-Aztecan language family. The Numic and Takic groups developed in the southwestern Great Basin. The Takic-speaking groups moved into coastal southern California from the southwestern Great Basin probably around 2,000 years ago, while

Numic groups expanded to the northeast throughout the Great Basin about 1,000 years ago (Golla 2007:75). The Kawaiisu remained in place and did not take part in the Numic expansion.

The Kawaiisu had winter villages in Cache Creek Canyon northeast of the modern town of Tehachapi. In summer and fall, some of these people moved to higher elevations and occupied temporary camps. In the fall, acorns and pinyon nuts were collected at elevations above 4,000 feet (Macko et al. 1993:36). Acorns were processed in bedrock mortars using a pestle, although portable mortars were also used. The Kawaiisu also made trips into the Mojave Desert to the east and northeast, including the area around China Lake (Zigmond 1986). In addition to acorns and pinyon nuts, the Kawaiisu exploited a wide array of plant foods, including grass and chia seeds, berries, and roots. Baskets were used to transport and store plant foods. Deer was the preferred animal food and was hunted with bow and arrow. Smaller animals, such as rabbits and rodents, were often caught using traps and snares (Zigmond 1986:400).

In the winter, people occupied circular houses made of a willow pole framework and covered with brush and mats made of bark and tule reeds. In the summer, open flat-roofed shade houses were used. Other structures included sweathouses, circular brush enclosures (windbreaks), and small granaries (Zigmond 1986:401).

Archaeologically, the Numic speakers, such as the Kawaiisu, have been associated with the appearance of Desert Side Notched arrow points and Owens Valley Brown Ware ceramics (Macko et al. 1993:16). These first appear in the northern Tehachapis about 1,000 BP and indicate the beginning of the Late Prehistoric Period. The preceding Rose Spring or Saratoga Springs period (circa 1,500 to 1,000 BP) is indicated by the presence of Rose Spring points (small corner notched expanding stem points) and Cottonwood Triangular arrow points.

### **3.3 History**

The first significant European settlement of California began during the Spanish Period (1769 to 1821) when 21 missions and 4 presidios were established between San Diego and Sonoma. Although located primarily along the coast, the missions dominated the majority of the California region during this period. The purpose of the missions and presidios was to establish Spanish economic, military, political, and religious control over the Alta California territory. This included the forced conversion of the native population to Spanish colonial society and Catholicism, which often consisted of subjugating Indians into a life of servitude to Spanish citizens (Castillo 1978; Cleland 1941). Mission San Fernando was established in the San Fernando Valley in 1797. A mission outpost, or *asistencia*, was established at the confluence of the Santa Clara River and Castaic Creek in 1804.

The Mexican Period (1821 to 1848) began with the success of the Mexican Revolution in 1821, but changes to the mission system were slow to follow. When secularization of the missions occurred in the 1830s, the vast land holdings of the missions in California were divided into large land grants called *ranchos*. The Mexican government granted ranchos throughout California to Spanish and Hispanic soldiers and settlers (Castillo 1978).

In 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the Mexican-American War and marked the beginning of the American Period (1848 to present). The discovery of gold the same year initiated the 1849 California Gold Rush, bringing thousands of miners and settlers to California,

most of whom settled in the north. For those settlers who chose to come to southern California, much of their economic prosperity was fueled by cattle ranching rather than by gold. This prosperity, however, came to a halt in the 1860s as a result of severe floods and droughts, which put many ranchers into bankruptcy (Castillo 1978; Cleland 1941).

The Indian Wells Valley was not used extensively during the historic period until the arrival of the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1876. The Southern Pacific Railroad built a line in 1910 from Mojave, California to Owenyo, California via Searles to connect with an existing rail line from Fernley, Nevada via Bishop to Owenyo (Robinson 1998). The community of Inyokern began as a stop on this rail line. Before World War II, Ridgecrest was known as Crumville, a small desert community of scattered farms and homesteads. The Naval Ordnance Test Station (NOTS) was established near Inyokern in 1941. Ridgecrest, located east of Inyokern, developed in the 1950s to provide housing and services for federal employees and contractors at the NOTS. Ridgecrest was incorporated in 1963. The Naval Ordnance Test Station later became the China Lake Naval Weapons Center and is now the China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS), the largest employer in the area (Desert USA 2009). The railroad north of Searles through Inyokern was abandoned in 1982. The route from Mojave to Searles and the spur to the Trona mines is still in operation.

## **4.0 METHODS**

### **4.1 Records Search Methods**

A records search was performed on May 6, 2011 at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) for all four Project Areas (Wells 18, 34, 35, 36). The purpose of the records searches was to determine the extent of previous cultural resources investigations and the presence of previously recorded archaeological sites or other historic resources within a 1-mile (1600-meter) radius of the four project locations. Materials reviewed included reports of previous cultural resources investigations, archaeological site records, historical maps, and listings of resources on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), California Points of Historical Interest, California Landmarks, and National Historic Landmarks.

### **4.2 Native American Outreach**

To identify Native American resources located within or near the four Project Areas that could be affected by the Proposed Project, a search of the Sacred Lands File was conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in Sacramento, California. The NAHC identified nine Native American groups and organizations with traditional/historical ties to the Project Area. Letters were sent to all nine contacts to inform them of the Proposed Project, to solicit their comments about the Project, and to identify potential impacts to Native American resources from the Proposed Project. Copies of all correspondence with the NAHC and the Native American contacts is provided in Appendix A.

### **4.3 Field Survey Methods**

Fieldwork was conducted by ECORP archaeologists on June 16, 2011. Field survey was restricted to two Project Areas (Wells 35 and 36) as no ground disturbing activities are proposed at the existing well locations (Wells 18 and 34).

Fieldwork consisted of a pedestrian survey the Well 35 Project Area and a linear survey along the pipeline alignment associated with Well 36, including a 30-meter buffer on either side of the proposed pipe alignment along North Victor Street.

An archaeological site was defined in accordance with the Office of Historic Preservation's (OHP) *California Archaeological Inventory Handbook* (1989) as "consisting of at least three associated artifacts or a single feature." As appropriate, the site boundary, loci, concentrations, and items of interest were mapped using a hand-held GPS Juno or GeoXH unit. GPS units ranged from sub-meter to 2-meter accuracy. Digital photographs were taken of select artifacts and features, as well as general site overviews showing the general environment and the presence, if any, of human or naturally-occurring impacts. Following fieldwork, Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 site record was prepared for each of the resources determined to be prehistoric or historic in age and location and sketch maps were created using data collected from the handheld GPS units used in the field. The DPR site record is provided in Appendix B.

## **5.0 RESULTS**

### **5.1 Record Search Results**

A records search was performed on May 6, 2011 at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) for four well locations (Wells 18, 34, 35, 36). The records search results indicated that 22 cultural resource investigations have been conducted within 1 mile of the four well locations between 1978 and 2010. These consist of 2 investigations located within 1 mile of Well 18 (KE-00306 and KE-02953), 2 investigations located within 1 mile of Well 34 (KE-02188 and KE-02553), 3 investigations located within 1 mile of Well 35 (KE-01543, KE-02016, and KE-03739), and 15 investigations located within 1 mile of Well 36 (KE-00532, KE-01828, KE-00424, KE-00567, KE-00568, KE-00614, KE-00733, KE-00289, KE-00572, KE-02054, KE-02862, KE-02900, KE-03497, KE-03651, and KE-03777). Of these 22 investigations, three are located within the Project Areas (KE-00306 at Well 18, and KE-02054 and KE-03651 at Well 36). The record search indicates that Well 18 was surveyed in 1987 (KE-00306), Wells 34 and 35 have not been surveyed, and Well 36 was partially surveyed in 2006 (KE-03651) in the area where the well will be located. The pipeline route north of Well 36 was surveyed in 1997 (KE-02054). Only the partial survey of Well 36 is considered current. Investigation KE-00306 encompasses Well 18 and consists of surveys for the proposed Southwest Well Field and well water transmission system. Investigations KE-02054 and KE-03651, encompassing Well 36 and pipeline, consists of surveys for proposed well locations and general research of the Indian Wells Valley. Details pertaining to all previous cultural resource investigations are provided below in Table 3.

Cultural Resources Survey of Two Proposed Well Site Near the City of Ridgecrest  
Kern County, California

**Table 3**  
**Previous Investigations within 1 Mile of the Project Area**

Author(s)	Report Title and Number	Year	Location Relative to Project Area
Jelinek, James C. and Daniel L. Young	<i>Historic Properties Survey Report, Route 09-KER-178, PM R93.2/100.6, Inyokern Road, Inyokern to Ridgecrest. (KE-00532)</i>	1978	Liner survey, 0.94 mile (1512 meters) north of the pipeline of Well 36
Young, Daniel L.	<i>Archaeological Survey Report for Highway Improvement Projects Between China Lake Boulevard and Highway 395. (KE-01828)</i>	1978	Liner survey, 0.94 mile (1512 meters) north of the pipeline of Well 36
Garfinkel, Alan P.	<i>Archaeological Survey Report for a Proposed Sale of an Excess Parcel on 09-KER-395, Kern County, California. (KE-00424)</i>	1983	Liner survey, 0.19 mile (306 meters) west of Well 36
Lawson, Jan	<i>Report of Archaeological Survey for James H. Pappe, June 1986. (KE-00567)</i>	1986	Block survey, 0.85 mile (1367 meters) west of the pipeline for Well 36
Brock, James and John F. Elliott	<i>A Cultural Resources Assessment of the Indian Wells Valley District Southwest Well Field and Transmission System. (KE-00306)</i>	1987	Liner and block surveys, encompassing Well 18
Lawson, Jan and Clifton Lawson	<i>Report of Archaeological Survey for Ethel M. Burge. (KE-00568)</i>	1987	Block survey, 0.50 mile (800 meters) west of the pipeline for Well 36
Love, Bruce	<i>Archaeological Report for Parcel Map 8655, Approximately 5 Acres in Ridgecrest, Kern County, California. (KE-00614)</i>	1988	Block survey, 0.98 mile (1577 meters) east of the pipeline of Well 36
Smith, Barbara	<i>Report of Archaeological Survey, Ridgecrest, for Ed Leckey. (KE- 01543)</i>	1989	Block survey, 0.19 mile (306 meters) east of Well 35
Taylor, Thomas	<i>Archaeological Survey Report Inyoken-Karmer 220 KV Transmission Line Conductoring Project Tower Sites, Pulling Areas, Sleeve Areas Wire Setups Kern and San Bernardino Counties, California. (KE-02016)</i>	1989	Liner survey, 0.57 mile (917 meters) east of Well 35
Norwood, Richard H.	<i>Cultural Resource Survey for Tentative Parcel Map No. 9457, 20 Acres in Inyokern, Kern County, California. (KE-00733)</i>	1990	Block survey, 0.98 mile (1577 meters) northwest of the pipeline of Well 36
Hall, M. C.	<i>Cultural Resources Survey of a Portion of the Former Southern Pacific Mojave-Oweno Branch Railroad, Inyo and Kern Counties, California. (KE-02188)</i>	1992	Linear survey, 0.09 mile (144 meters) west of Well 34
Berg, John	<i>A Cultural Resources Survey and Inventory for the Mojave Pipeline/Coso Lateral. (KE-00289)</i>	1993	Linear survey, 0.09 mile (144 meters) west of Well 36

Cultural Resources Survey of Two Proposed Well Site Near the City of Ridgecrest  
Kern County, California

<b>Author(s)</b>	<b>Report Title and Number</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Location Relative to Project Area</b>
Laylander, Jay	<i>Negative Archaeological Survey Report DOT-09-KER-395, PM 15.0/29.3, EA 250000. (KE-00572)</i>	1995	Block survey, 0.51 mile (820 meters) west of the pipeline for Well 36
Love, Bruce and Bai Tang	<i>Cultural Resources Overview: Water System General Plan, Indian Wells Valley Water District, Kern and San Bernardino Counties, California. (KE-02054)</i>	1997	Block Survey, encompasses Well 36 and pipeline
Burke, Thomas	<i>Re-Examination of Previously Documented Cultural Resources on the Union Pacific Railroad Lone Pine Branch, MP 430.00 Searles to MP 519.34 Near Lone Pine, on Public Lands Administered by the BLM, Ridgecrest Office. (KE-02553)</i>	1998	Linear survey, 0.09 mile (144 meters) west of Well 34
Wickstorm, Brian	<i>Archaeological Survey Report for the Inyokern Four-Lane Project, Kern County, California (06-KER-395, PM 14.8/23.0). (KE-02862)</i>	2003	Liner survey, 0.09 mile (144 meters) northwest of the pipeline of Well 36
Darcangelo, Michael, William Hildebrandt, and Jerome King	<i>Archaeological Survey of the Southern and Western Portions of the Security Perimeter Fence Line, Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake. (KE-02900)</i>	2004	Liner survey, 0.94 mile (1512 meters) north of the pipeline of Well 36
Schmidt, James	<i>Hovaten Overhead Line Extension in the Inyokern Area, Kern County, California. (KE-02953)</i>	2004	Linear survey, 0.47 mile (756 meters) east of Well 18
Wickstorm, Brian	<i>Historic Property Survey for the Inyokern Four Lane Project, Kern County, California. (KE-03497)</i>	2006	Liner survey, 0.09 mile (144 meters) northwest of the pipeline for Well 36
Tang, T. and M. Hogan	<i>Historical/Archaeological Resources Survey Report Well Plants 35 and 36, APNs 325-250-33 and -36 Near the City of Ridgecrest Kern County, California. (KE-03651)</i>	2006	Block Survey, encompasses Well 36 and pipeline
Parr, Robert	<i>Cultural Resources Assessment for the Replacement of a Deteriorated H-Frame Structure (Poles #A 1533029AE and #A 1533029BE) on the Southern California Edison Company Unyokern-McGen-Searles No. 1 115kV Circuit Near Ridgcrest, Kern County, California. (KE-03739)</i>	2008	Block survey, 0.57 mile (917 meters) east of Well 35
Leach-Palm, Laura, Paul Brandy, Jay King, Pat Mikkelsen, Libby Seil, Lindsay Hartman, Jill Breadeen, Bryan Larson, Joseph Freeman, Julia Coatello, Jeffery Rosenthal, and Deborah Jones	<i>Cultural Resources Inventory of Caltrans District 6 Rural Conventional Highways in Fresno, Western Kern, Kings, Madera, and Tulare Counties Summary of Methods and Findings. (KE-03777)</i>	2010	Liner survey, 0.94 mile (1512 meters) north of the pipeline of Well 36

Cultural Resources Survey of Two Proposed Well Site Near the City of Ridgecrest  
Kern County, California

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The records search results indicated that 15 cultural resources have been recorded within 1 mile of the Project Areas. Of the 15 cultural resources, none are located within the Project Areas. No known sites overlap any of the well or pipeline locations. One site (P-15-012543) is located approximately 100 feet (30 meters) north of the pipeline from Well 36. Site P-15-012543 is described as remnants of a nineteenth century wagon trail. It is an unmaintained trail measuring 6 feet in width by 1.50 feet in height with an approximate distance of 26 miles through desert landscape. The trail was established by Cerro Gordo Freight Company and extended from Freeman Junction across Indian Wells Valley in a northeasterly direction. The purpose of the trail was to transport silver from the Cerro Gordo mines to the north. An 1883 map shows a road labeled "Freight Road to Panamint". This road is in the same general location as the present trail. Additionally, maps dating to 1904 and 1914 (USGS Inyokern quads) also show a trail in the same vicinity. However, subsequent maps (USGS Ridgecrest quads) show the trail location approximately 2 miles to the east. The variation in the location of the trail can be attributed to inaccuracies in early mapping, abandonment of the trail, and natural erosion of the trail by wind and water.

Site P-15-03366 is located approximately 0.19 mile (306 meters) west of Well 34. This site is described as the Southern Pacific Railroad Line from Mojave to Searles Junction, but it also continued to Inyokern, Olancha, and Owenyo in Owens Valley. This rail line is shown on maps (USGS Mojave, Sanborn, Mojave NE, Cinco, Cantil, Garlock, Saltdale SE, and EL Paso) that date from 1915 to present. The railroad line was built by the Southern Pacific Company in 1908-1910 for the Los Angeles Aqueduct project and extended from Mojave to Owens Valley. A spur from Searles Junction to Trona was later built to service the mines at Trona. Only the Trona line (P-15-03366) (from Mojave to Searles Junction to Trona) is still in use today. Details pertaining to all previously recorded cultural resources are provided below in Table 4.

**Table 4**  
**Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within 1 Mile of the Project Area**

Location in Relation to Project Area	Resource Designation	Age or Period of Resource	Description	Reference(s)
0.76 mile (122 meters) south of Well 36	P-15-001671	Prehistoric	Lithic scatter containing obsidian, chalcedony, and agate	Wickstorm, DPR Record (2002)
0.19 mile (306 meters) west of Well 34	P-15-003366	Historic	Southern Pacific Railroad Line from Mojave to Searles Junction to Owenyo	Costello et al., Archaeological Site Record (1993)
0.38 mile (612 meters) east of Well 35	P-15-008705	Prehistoric	Quartzite flake	Brock, Isolate Record (1987)
0.85 mile (137 meters) south of Well 34	P-15-008710	Prehistoric	Quartzite cobble core	Berg et al. , Isolate Record (1992)
0.95 mile (153 meters) northwest of the pipeline of Well 36	P-15-008758	Prehistoric	Brown chert flake	Taylor, Isolate Record (1989)

Cultural Resources Survey of Two Proposed Well Site Near the City of Ridgecrest  
Kern County, California

Location in Relation to Project Area	Resource Designation	Age or Period of Resource	Description	Reference(s)
0.85 mile (137 meters) south of Well 36	P-15-010818	Prehistoric	Site consisting of a scatter of chert tools and flaking debris	Wickstorm, DPR Record (2003)
0.76 mile (122 meters) south of Well 36	P-15-010819	Prehistoric	Site consisting of a scatter of flaked stone manufacturing debris	Wickstorm, DPR Record (2003)
0.38 mile (612 meters) south of Well 36	P-15-010820	Prehistoric	Opaque light brown and white chert flake	Wickstorm, DPR Record (2002)
0.38 mile (612 meters) south of Well 36	P-15-010821	Prehistoric	Opaque dark brown chert flake	Wickstorm et al., DPR Record (2002)
0.76 mile (122 meters) southwest of Well 35	P-15-010823	Prehistoric	Obsidian flake	Wickstorm et al., DPR Record (2002)
1 mile (1600 meters) south of Well 36	P-15-010824	Prehistoric	Broad and thinly worked chert biface	Wickstorm, DPR Record (2003)
0.66 mile (106 meters) south of Well 36	P-15-010826	Prehistoric	Large black secondary chert flake	Wickstorm, DPR Record (2003)
0.66 mile (106 meters) south of Well 36	P-15-010827	Prehistoric	Midsection from a large flake of semi-translucent amber chert	Wickstorm, DPR Record (2003)
100 feet (30 meters) north of the pipeline for Well 36	P-15-012543	Historic	Remnant segment of nineteenth century wagon trail	Hope, DPR Record (2004)
0.38 mile (612 meters) west of the pipeline of Well 36	P-15-013823	Historic	H-frame utility structure	Ford et al. DPR Record (2010)

## 5.2 Native American Outreach Results

The search of the Sacred Lands File by the NAHC did not indicate the presence of any Native American cultural resources within or near any of the four Project Areas. To date, no responses have been received from any of the Tribes.

## 5.3 Field Survey Results

Field survey was restricted to two well locations (Wells 35 and 36) as no ground disturbing activities are proposed at the existing well locations (Wells 18 and 34).

### 5.3.1 Well 35 Project Area

No prehistoric archaeological sites or isolated finds were discovered during survey activities. One site thought to be historic in age (i.e., over 50 years old) was discovered during fieldwork:



IWW-001. The soil consists of a fine to medium grain sand. Vegetation consists of creosote, bursage, and low-lying desert grasses.

**IWW-001.** IWW-001 is a historic-period refuse deposit consisting of a sparse scatter of refuse over an area measuring 118 feet east-west by 43 feet north-south and containing one concentration of refuse (C1) measuring 32 feet east-west by 42 feet north-south (Figure 6). The sparse refuse scatter consists of four rotary opened matchstick filler cans and one crushed matchstick filler can measuring 3 12/16 inches high by 2 14/16 inches diameter, one key wind coffee tin, one coffee tin embossed with "RICHARDSON & ROBBINS/ DOVER, DEL. U.S.A.", one large church key-opened juice can, one crushed sanitary can, one knife punch-opened sanitary can, and one colorless glass drinking glass fragment.

**Concentration 1 (C1)** is a concentration of historic-period refuse in an area measuring 23 feet north-south by 32 feet east-west. Cans and miscellaneous refuse present within Concentration 1 include one large knife-opened juice can, one crushed powder tin, nine rotary-opened sanitary cans, one jab lift-opened sanitary can, three small round meat tins, one chemical solvent type can, two knife-opened matchstick filler cans, one knife-punched matchstick filler can, two steel beverage cans which were first produced in 1935 and fell out of production in the early 1960s (Rock 1989), two metal jar lids, one light bulb filament, and two pieces of charcoal. Bottle fragments present within Concentration 1 consist of one Seven-Up bottle fragment with a circa 1939-1953 applied color label (Lockhart 2005), three colorless glass Royal Crown Cola shoulder fragments, one colorless glass bottle fragment embossed with "Absorbine Jr", two shards of milk glass, one aqua glass hobble skirt Coke bottle fragment, two colorless glass bottle bases with a Glass Containers maker's mark, one colorless glass bottle base embossed with "National Distillers" and one bottle body fragment, one colorless glass Best Foods condiment jar base with an Owens Illinois maker's mark dated 1941, two colorless glass bottle bases with Hazel Atlas maker's marks, and one amber glass bottle base with an Owens Illinois maker's mark dated 1942 (Toulouse 1971). Bottle finishes present consist of one Royal Crown Cola bottle finish; six colorless glass bottle finishes consisting of four screw top finishes, three with metal caps attached, and two cork stop finishes; one amber glass crown cap bottle finish; and one milk bottle finish. Ceramics present consist of two white porcelain dish fragments, and one stoneware dish fragment with white glaze. Glass fragments present consist of five fragments of colorless glass from a drinking glass, approximately 70 shards of colorless glass, and approximately 50 shards of amber glass.

### **5.3.2 Well 36 Project Area**

No prehistoric or historic-period archaeological sites or isolated finds were discovered during survey activities in the Well 36 Project Area. Soil consists of a fine to medium grain sand within the Project Area, and vegetation consists of creosote, bursage, and low-lying desert grasses. (Figure 7).



**Figure 6.** Well 35 Project Area with IWW-001 in Foreground. View East.



**Figure 7.** Well 36 Project Area. View North.

## **6.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

A records search performed by an ECORP archaeologist identified one previously recorded historic-period site: the Southern Pacific Railroad Line from Mojave to Searles Junction (P-15-003366), located within 1 mile of the Well 35 Project Area. Five previously recorded sites were identified within 1 mile of the Well 36 Project Area; a prehistoric scatter of chert tools and flaking debris (P-15-010818), a prehistoric lithic scatter (P-15-001671), a prehistoric lithic scatter (P-15-010819), a historic period H-frame utility structure (P15-001671), and the remnant of a historic-period wagon trail (P-15-012543).

One historic-period cultural resource, IWW-001, was recorded during the field survey. This refuse deposit consisting of a sparse scatter of refuse over an area measuring 118 feet east-west by 43 feet north-south and containing one concentration of refuse (C1) measuring 32-feet east-west by 42 feet north-south. All artifacts were flagged, inspected and recorded. No artifacts were collected.

IWW-001 appears to represent a single-episode roadside dump of domestic refuse dating to the 1940s. Roadside dumps lack context. In other words, it cannot be determined who disposed of the refuse or to what household or households it pertained. Because of the lack of context and the sparse nature of the refuse deposit, IWW-001 does not have the potential to yield information important in California history and, therefore, is recommended as not eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) under Criterion 4 (the potential to yield information important in California history). IWW-001 cannot be associated with any important historical events or persons (CRHR Criteria 1 and 2) and is not a building or structure with distinctive architectural or engineering characteristics (CRHR Criteria 3). IWW-001 is not eligible for the CRHR and is not a Historical Resource as defined by CEQA.

Because only impacts to Historical Resources are potentially significant and there are no Historical Resources in the Project Area, the Project would have no significant impacts on Historical Resources. No mitigation measures are required for these resources because there are no significant impacts.

## 7.0 REFERENCES

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## **8.0 REPORT AND FIELD PERSONNEL**

### **8.1 Report Preparers**

Robert Cunningham, Contributing Author  
2007 B.A., Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles  
Years of experience: 7

Evelyn Chandler, Project Manager/Contributing Author  
1989 B.A., Anthropology, University of Redlands  
1989 B.A., Political Science, University of Redlands  
Years of experience: 16

Roger D. Mason, Ph.D., RPA, Contributing Author  
1980 Ph.D., Anthropology (Archaeology), University of Texas at Austin  
1971 B.A., Anthropology, University of Washington  
Years of Experience: 27

### **8.2 Field Personnel**

Robert Cunningham, Field Archaeologist  
2007 B.A., Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles  
Years of experience: 7

Kristina Lindgren, Field Archaeologist  
2001 California State University, San Bernardino  
Years of experience: 9



June 2, 2011  
(2010-132)

Mr. Dave Singleton  
Associate Governmental Program Analyst  
Native American Heritage Commission  
915 Capitol Mall, Room 364  
Sacramento, CA 95814

VIA FACSIMILE (916) 657-5390

**Subject: Indian Wells Valley Water District, Water Supply Improvement Project,  
Ridgecrest, Kern County, California**

Dear Mr. Singleton:

We are requesting on behalf of our client that a review of the Sacred Lands File be conducted for a cultural resources study near the city of Ridgecrest, Kern County. The proposed project consists of the re-drilling of two existing wells and the installation of two new wells and support pipelines.

The project area is located within Sections 27, 28, 33, and 34 of Township 26 South, Range 39 East of the Mount Diablo Base Meridian on the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute Inyokern, California topographic quadrangle sheet. The project area also extends into Sections 4, 5, 8, and 9, of Township 27 South, Range 39 East of the Mount Diablo Base Meridian on the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute Inyokern SE, California topographic quadrangle sheet (see attached maps).

Please fax the results of this search to my attention at **(909) 307-0056**. For correspondence, please reference 2010-132. If you have any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me at (909) 307-0046 or via email at [edenniston@ecorpconsulting.com](mailto:edenniston@ecorpconsulting.com). Thank you for your assistance with this project.

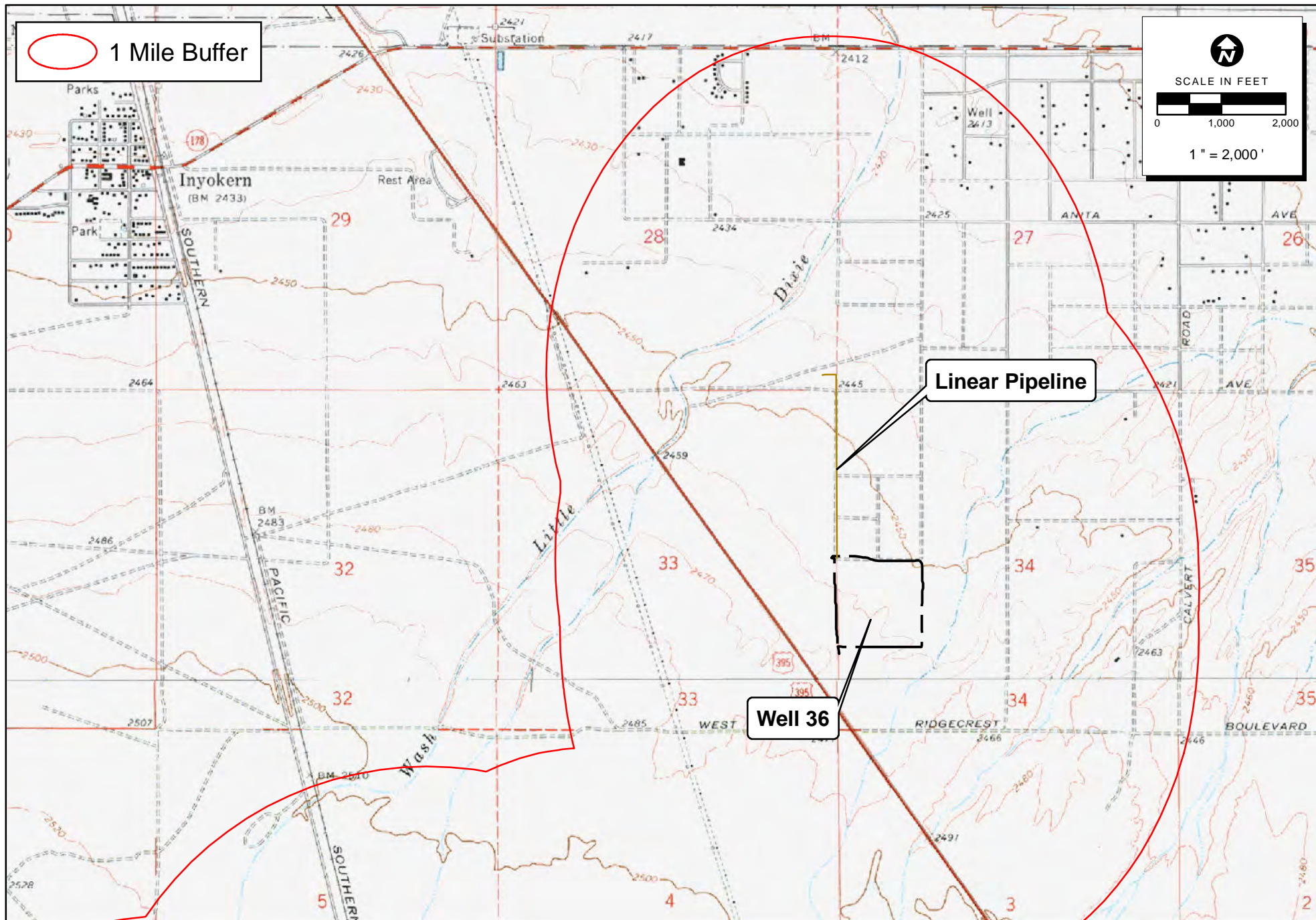
Sincerely,

**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**



Elizabeth L. Denniston  
Staff Archaeologist

Attachment: as stated



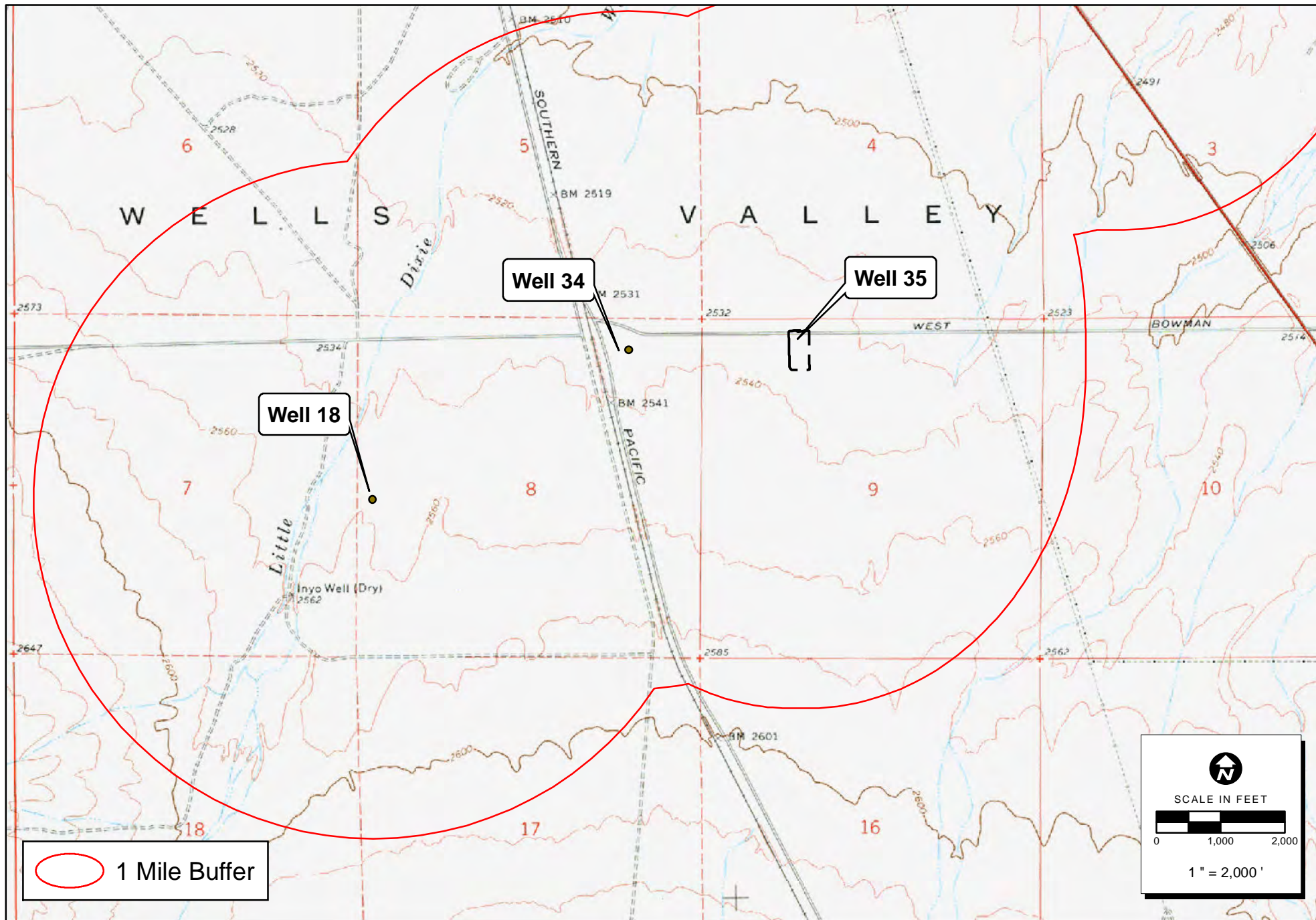
Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_North.mxd (KOrtega 4/26/2011)

Map Date: 4/26/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search





Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_South.mxd (KOrtega 4/26/2011)

Map Date: 4/26/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Edmund G. Brown, Jr., Governor

**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

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June 6, 2011

Ms. Elizabeth L. Denniston, Staff Archaeologist

**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**

215 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Redlands, CA 92374

Sent by FAX to: 909-307-0056

No. of Pages: 4

Re: Sacred Lands File Search and Native American Contacts list for the "Indian Wells Valley Water District, Water Supply Improvement Project" located in the City of Reidgecrest Area; Kern County, California

Dear Ms. Denniston:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) conducted a Sacred Lands File search of the 'areas of potential effect,' (APEs) based on the USGS coordinates provided and found **Native American cultural resources were not identified** in the USGS coordinates you specified. Also, please note, the NAHC Sacred Lands Inventory is not exhaustive; Native American cultural resources may be inadvertently discovered during ground-breaking activity.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA – CA Public Resources Code §§ 21000-21177, amendments effective 3/18/2010) requires that any project that causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource, that includes archaeological resources, is a 'significant effect' requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) per the CEQA Guidelines defines a significant impact on the environment as 'a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of physical conditions within an area affected by the proposed project, including ... objects of historic or aesthetic significance.' In order to comply with this provision, the lead agency is required to assess whether the project will have an adverse impact on these resources within the 'area of potential effect (APE), and if so, to mitigate that effect. CA Government Code §65040.12(e) defines "environmental justice" provisions and is applicable to the environmental review processes.

Early consultation, even during Initial Study or First Phase surveys with Native American tribes in your area is the best way to avoid unanticipated discoveries once a project is underway. Local Native Americans may have knowledge of the religious and cultural significance of the historic properties of the proposed project for the area (e.g. APE). Consultation with Native American communities is also a matter of environmental justice as defined by California Government Code §65040.12(e). We urge consultation with those tribes and interested Native Americans on the list of Native American Contacts we attach to this letter in order to see if your proposed project might impact Native American cultural resources. Lead agencies should consider avoidance as defined in §15370 of the CEQA Guidelines when significant cultural resources as defined by the CEQA Guidelines §15064.5 (b)(c)(f) may be affected by a proposed project. If so, Section 15382 of the CEQA Guidelines defines a

significant impact on the environment as "substantial," and Section 2183.2 which requires documentation, data recovery of cultural resources.

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

  
Dave Singleton  
Program Analyst

Attachment: Native American Contact List

## California Native American Contact List

Kern County

July 8, 2011

Tule River Indian Tribe  
Ryan Garfield, Chairperson

P.O. Box 589

Porterville , CA 93258

(559) 781-4271

chairman@tulerivertribe-nsn.  
gov

(559) 781-4610 FAX

Yokuts

Ron Wermuth

P.O. Box 168

Kernville , CA 93238

warmoose@earthlink.net

(760) 376-4240 - Home

(916) 717-1176 - Cell

Tubatulabal

Kawaiisu

Koso

Yokuts

Tehachapi Indian Tribe

Attn: Charlie Cooke

32835 Santiago Road

Acton , CA 93510

suscol@intox.net

(661) 733-1812

Kawaiisu

Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians

Delia Dominguez, Chairperson

981 N. Virginia

Covina , CA 91722

deedominguez@juno.com

(626) 339-6785

Yowlumne

Kitanemuk

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

John Valenzuela, Chairperson

P.O. Box 221838

Newhall , CA 91322

**tsen2u@hotmail.com**

(661) 753-9833 Office

(760) 885-0955 Cell

(760) 949-1604 Fax

Fernandeño

Tataviam

Serrano

Vanyume

Kitanemuk

Tejon Indian Tribe

Katherine Montes- Morgan, Chairperson

2234 4th Street

Wasco , CA 93280

kmorgan@bak.rr.com

661-758-2303

Yowlumne

Kitanemuk

Kawaiisu

Kawaiisu Tribe of Tejon Reservation

David Laughinghorse Robinson

PO Box 1547

Kernville , CA 93238

(661) 664-3098 - work

(661) 664-7747 - home

horse.robinson@gmail.com

Kawaiisu

Kern Valley Indian Council

Robert Robinson, Co-Chairperson

P.O. Box 401

Weldon , CA 93283

**brobinson@iwvisp.com**

(760) 378-4575 (Home)

(760) 549-2131 (Work)

Tubatulabal

Kawaiisu

Koso

Yokuts

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

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of the statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed SCH#2011071010; CEQA Notice of Preparation (NOP); draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Water Supply Improvement Project; located west of the City of Ridgecrest; east of Inyokern and south of the NAWS China Lake federal facility; Kern County, California.

**California Native American Contact List**

Kern County

July 8, 2011

Tubatulabals of Kern Valley  
Donna Begay, Tribal Chairwoman  
P.O. Box 226 Tubatulabal  
Lake Isabella, CA 93240  
drbegay@aol.com  
(760) 379-4590  
(760) 379-4592 FAX

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

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of the statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed SCH#2011071010; CEQA Notice of Preparation (NOP); draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Water Supply Improvement Project; located west of the City of Ridgecrest; east of Inyokern and south of the NAWS China Lake federal facility; Kern County, California.



August 1, 2011  
(2010-132)

Donna Begay, Tribal Chairwoman  
Tubatulabals of Kern Valley  
P.O. Box 226  
Lake Isabella, CA 93240

**Subject:** *Indian Wells Valley Water District, Water Supply Improvement Project, Ridgecrest, Kern County, California*

Dear Ms. Begay:

Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWWVD) is proposing a water supply improvement project near Ridgecrest, Kern County, California. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase the water supply capacity in order to meet the existing water demand in the area. The proposed project includes improvements to two existing wells (Wells 18 and 34), the construction of two new wells (Wells 35 and 36), and the construction of a pipeline to serve Well 36.

The attached maps show the location of the existing well sites, proposed well sites, and the proposed pipeline alignment currently under review. The project area is located within Sections 27, 28, 33, and 34 of Township 26 South, Range 39 East, and Sections 8, and 9, of Township 27 South, Range 39 East of the Mount Diablo Base Meridian, as seen on the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles Inyokern and Inyokern SE, California.

Situated south of Bowman Road, existing Wells 18 and 34 are to the west and east of Bowman Road, respectively. Proposed Well 35 would be located on the south side of Bowman Road, within a 3.92-acre area comprised of Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 341-234-02 and -03. Proposed Well 36 would be located in the extreme southwest corner of APN of 352-250-33, a 20.33 acre property located at the southeast corner of Las Flores Avenue and N. Victor Street. The proposed 400-foot, 12- to 16-inch pipeline would extend north from proposed Well 37 along North Victor Street and tie in to the existing pipeline at Well 31 near Drummond Avenue (see attached maps).

In order to identify cultural resources that could be affected by the proposed project, a records search has been conducted with the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center located at California State University, Bakersfield. Following the records search, a field survey of the project area was completed by qualified archaeologists from ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP).

As a result of the records search and field survey, one previously-recorded (P-15-012543) and one newly-recorded site (IWW-001) were identified. Site P-15-012543 was identified approximately 100 feet (30 meters) north of the northern terminus of the proposed pipeline serving Well 36. The site is described as remnants of a nineteenth century wagon trail, and will not be impacted by the proposed project.

Newly-recorded site IWW-001 consists of a sparse, historic-period refuse deposit containing cans and glass fragments. The site measures 118 feet (east-west) by 43 feet (north-south) and is located within the northern portion of proposed Well 35. No prehistoric resources were identified within, or immediately adjacent to, the project area.

A search of the Sacred Lands File has been conducted with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in Sacramento, California. The Sacred Lands File did not identify any known Native American cultural resources in the project area or within a 0.5-mile radius. Native American resources, however, are reportedly located in the vicinity, beyond 0.5 mile away.

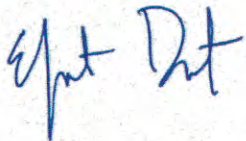
On behalf of IWWWD, ECORP is contacting you about the proposed project to provide you with an opportunity to comment. With your assistance, we would like to identify any resources located within or near the proposed project area that are of importance to the local Native American community and that could be affected by the proposed project. We will protect the confidentiality of information concerning the identity, location, character, and traditional use of cultural places identified by you. We will protect the confidentiality of information concerning the identity, location, character, and traditional use of cultural places identified during consultation.

We encourage you to participate in this process. The potential impacts that this project may have on cultural resources important to the Native American community cannot be evaluated without your input. If possible, for project planning purposes, we would like to receive a response from you about this project within the next four weeks.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (909) 307-0046 or via email at edenniston@ecorpconsulting.com. Thank you for your assistance and participation in this project.

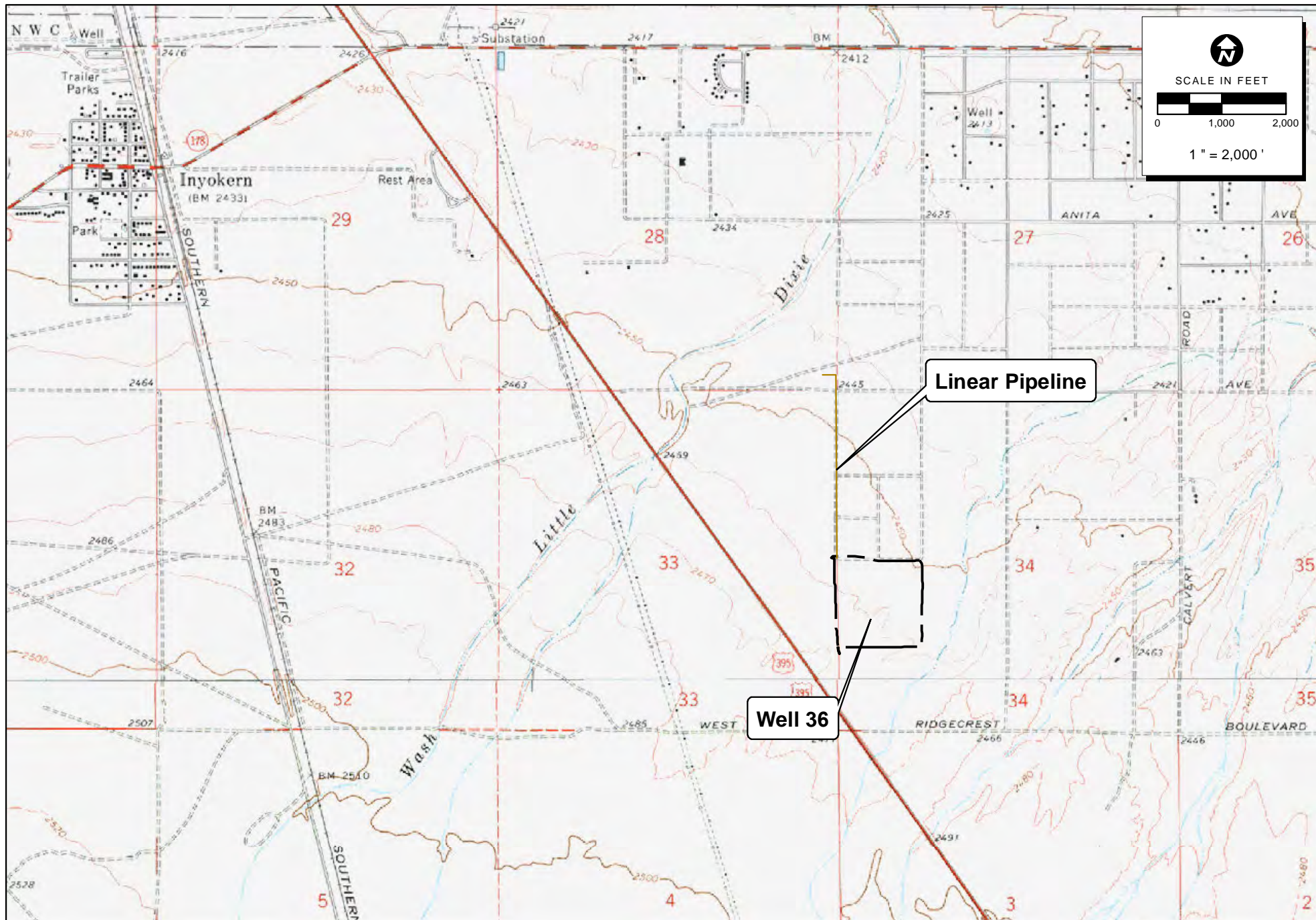
Sincerely,

ECORP Consulting, Inc.



Elizabeth L. Denniston  
Senior Archaeologist

Enclosures: as stated



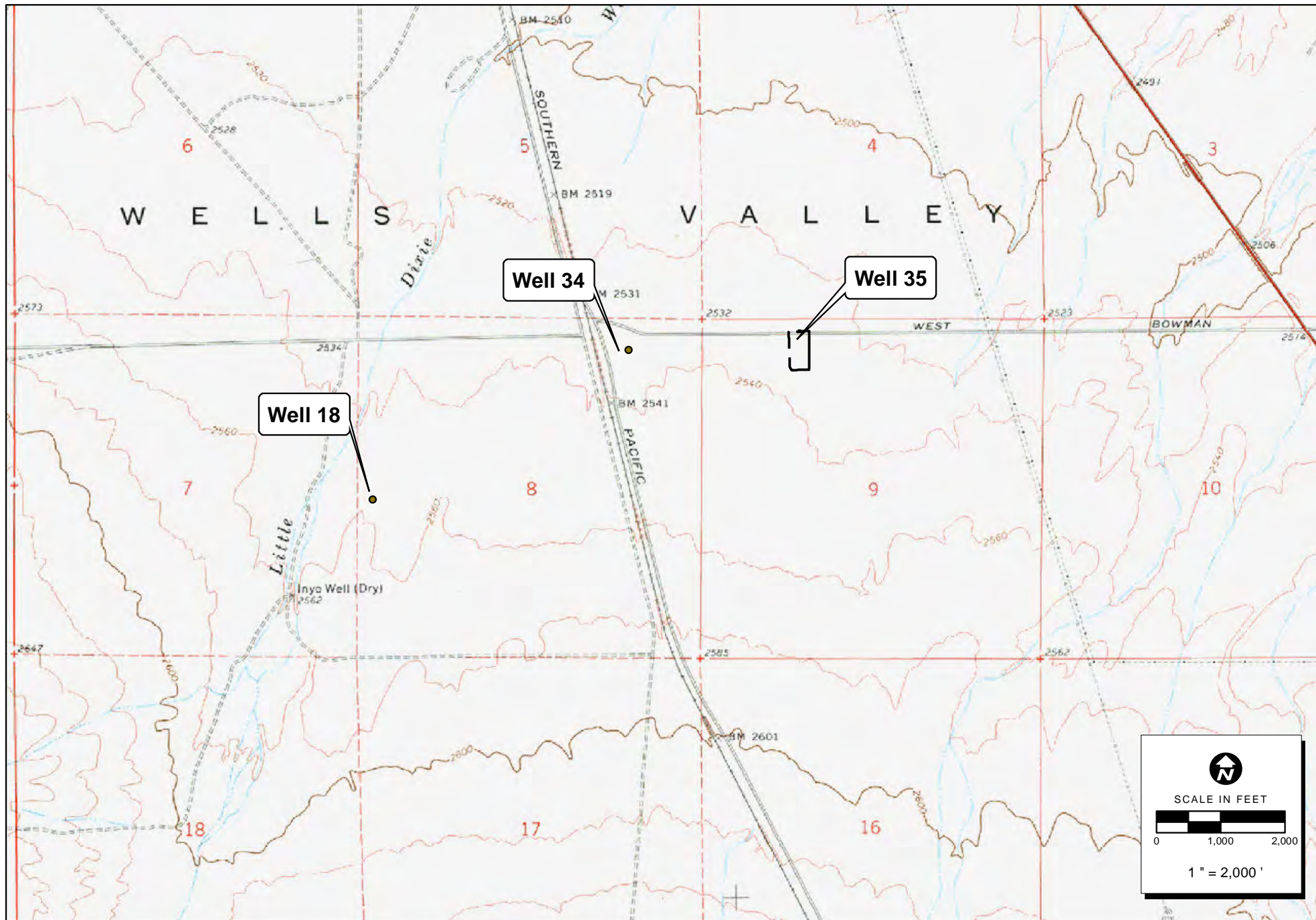
Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_North.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search





Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_South.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



August 1, 2011  
(2010-132)

Delia Dominguez, Chairperson  
Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians  
981 N. Virginia  
Covina, CA 91722

**Subject:** *Indian Wells Valley Water District, Water Supply Improvement Project, Ridgecrest, Kern County, California*

Dear Ms. Dominguez:

Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWWVD) is proposing a water supply improvement project near Ridgecrest, Kern County, California. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase the water supply capacity in order to meet the existing water demand in the area. The proposed project includes improvements to two existing wells (Wells 18 and 34), the construction of two new wells (Wells 35 and 36), and the construction of a pipeline to serve Well 36.

The attached maps show the location of the existing well sites, proposed well sites, and the proposed pipeline alignment currently under review. The project area is located within Sections 27, 28, 33, and 34 of Township 26 South, Range 39 East, and Sections 8, and 9, of Township 27 South, Range 39 East of the Mount Diablo Base Meridian, as seen on the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles Inyokern and Inyokern SE, California.

Situated south of Bowman Road, existing Wells 18 and 34 are to the west and east of Bowman Road, respectively. Proposed Well 35 would be located on the south side of Bowman Road, within a 3.92-acre area comprised of Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 341-234-02 and -03. Proposed Well 36 would be located in the extreme southwest corner of APN of 352-250-33, a 20.33 acre property located at the southeast corner of Las Flores Avenue and N. Victor Street. The proposed 400-foot, 12- to 16-inch pipeline would extend north from proposed Well 37 along North Victor Street and tie in to the existing pipeline at Well 31 near Drummond Avenue (see attached maps).

In order to identify cultural resources that could be affected by the proposed project, a records search has been conducted with the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center located at California State University, Bakersfield. Following the records search, a field survey of the project area was completed by qualified archaeologists from ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP).

As a result of the records search and field survey, one previously-recorded (P-15-012543) and one newly-recorded site (IWW-001) were identified. Site P-15-012543 was identified approximately 100 feet (30 meters) north of the northern terminus of the proposed pipeline serving Well 36. The site is described as remnants of a nineteenth century wagon trail, and will not be impacted by the proposed project.

Newly-recorded site IWW-001 consists of a sparse, historic-period refuse deposit containing cans and glass fragments. The site measures 118 feet (east-west) by 43 feet (north-south) and is located within the northern portion of proposed Well 35. No prehistoric resources were identified within, or immediately adjacent to, the project area.

A search of the Sacred Lands File has been conducted with the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) in Sacramento, California. The Sacred Lands File did not identify any known Native American cultural resources in the project area or within a 0.5-mile radius. Native American resources, however, are reportedly located in the vicinity, beyond 0.5 mile away.

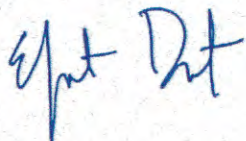
On behalf of IWWWD, ECORP is contacting you about the proposed project to provide you with an opportunity to comment. With your assistance, we would like to identify any resources located within or near the proposed project area that are of importance to the local Native American community and that could be affected by the proposed project. We will protect the confidentiality of information concerning the identity, location, character, and traditional use of cultural places identified by you. We will protect the confidentiality of information concerning the identity, location, character, and traditional use of cultural places identified during consultation.

We encourage you to participate in this process. The potential impacts that this project may have on cultural resources important to the Native American community cannot be evaluated without your input. If possible, for project planning purposes, we would like to receive a response from you about this project within the next four weeks.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (909) 307-0046 or via email at edenniston@ecorpconsulting.com. Thank you for your assistance and participation in this project.

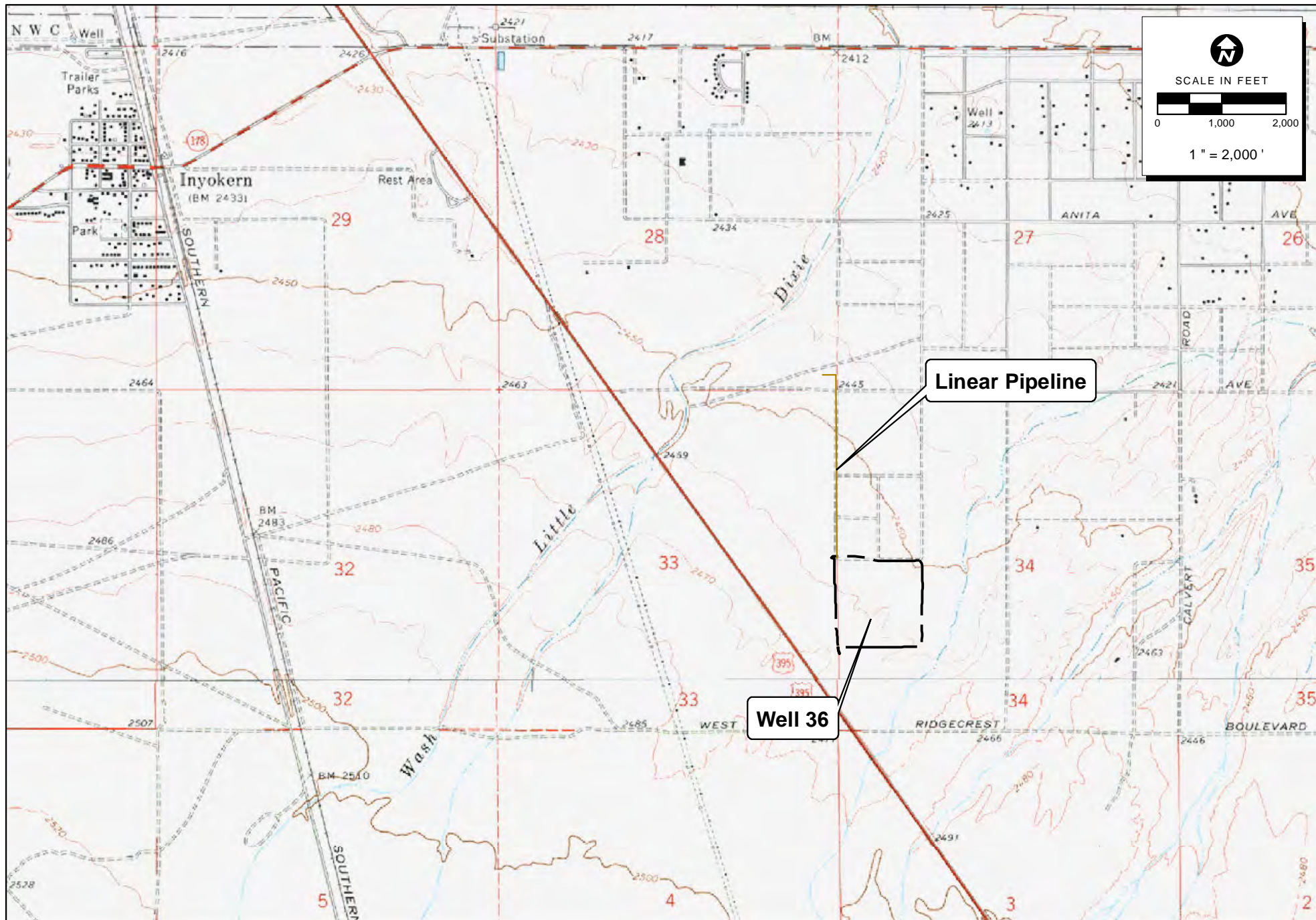
Sincerely,

ECORP Consulting, Inc.



Elizabeth L. Denniston  
Senior Archaeologist

Enclosures: as stated

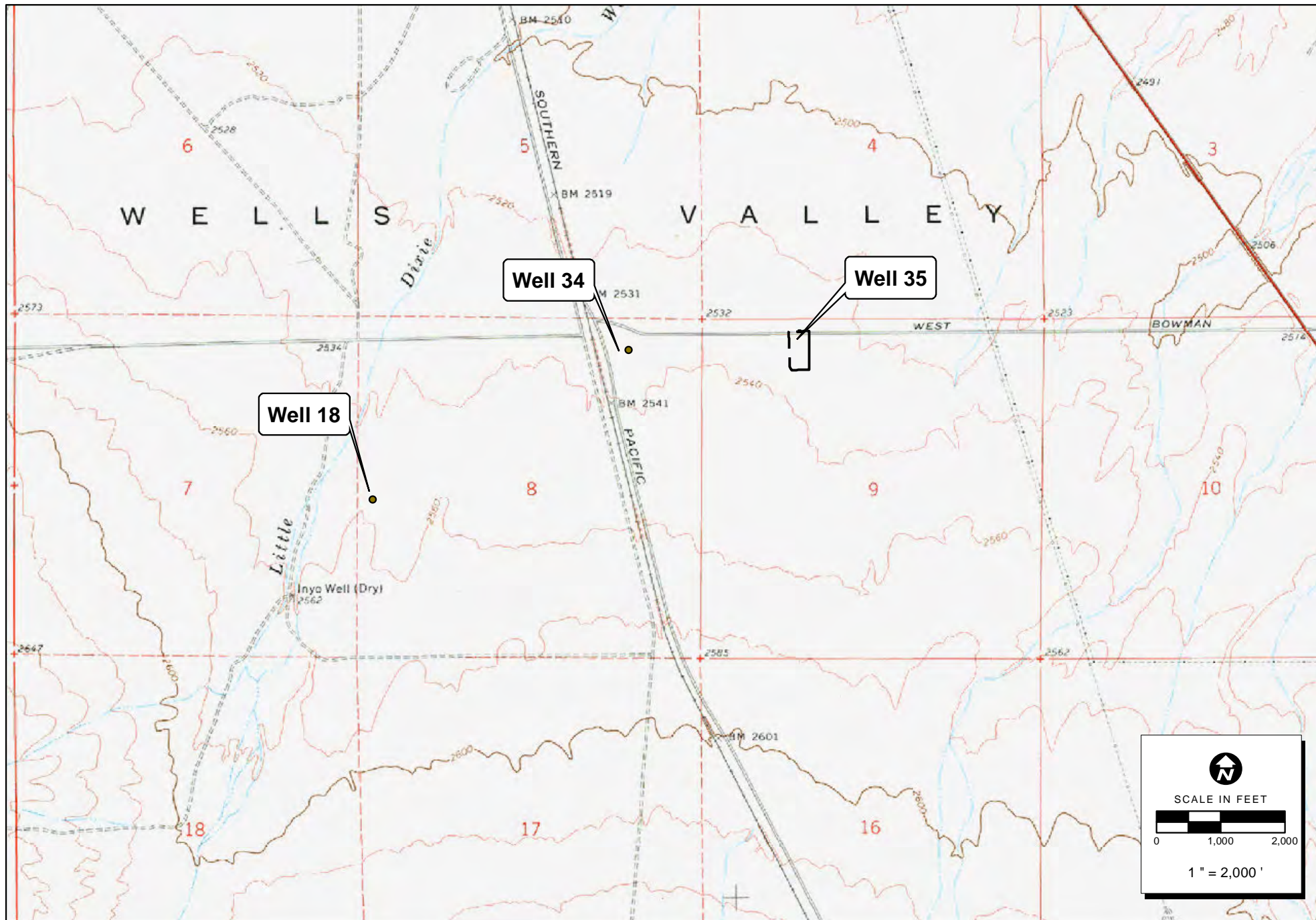


Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_North.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_South.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



August 1, 2011  
(2010-132)

Ryan Garfield, Chairperson  
Tule River Indian Tribe  
P.O. Box 589  
Porterville, CA 93258

**Subject:** *Indian Wells Valley Water District, Water Supply Improvement Project, Ridgecrest, Kern County, California*

Dear Mr. Garfield:

Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWWVD) is proposing a water supply improvement project near Ridgecrest, Kern County, California. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase the water supply capacity in order to meet the existing water demand in the area. The proposed project includes improvements to two existing wells (Wells 18 and 34), the construction of two new wells (Wells 35 and 36), and the construction of a pipeline to serve Well 36.

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Situated south of Bowman Road, existing Wells 18 and 34 are to the west and east of Brown Road, respectively. Proposed Well 35 would be located on the south side of Bowman Road, within a 3.92-acre area comprised of Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 341-234-02 and -03. Proposed Well 36 would be located in the extreme southwest corner of APN of 352-250-33, a 20.33 acre property located at the southeast corner of Las Flores Avenue and N. Victor Street. The proposed 400-foot, 12- to 16-inch pipeline would extend north from proposed Well 37 along North Victor Street and tie in to the existing pipeline at Well 31 near Drummond Avenue (see attached maps).

In order to identify cultural resources that could be affected by the proposed project, a records search has been conducted with the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center located at California State University, Bakersfield. Following the records search, a field survey of the project area was completed by qualified archaeologists from ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP).

As a result of the records search and field survey, one previously-recorded (P-15-012543) and one newly-recorded site (IWW-001) were identified. Site P-15-012543 was identified approximately 100 feet (30 meters) north of the northern terminus of the proposed pipeline serving Well 36. The site is described as remnants of a nineteenth century wagon trail, and will not be impacted by the proposed project.

Newly-recorded site IWW-001 consists of a sparse, historic-period refuse deposit containing cans and glass fragments. The site measures 118 feet (east-west) by 43 feet (north-south) and is located within the northern portion of proposed Well 35. No prehistoric resources were identified within, or immediately adjacent to, the project area.

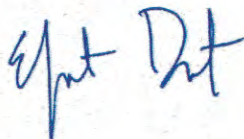
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On behalf of IWWWD, ECORP is contacting you about the proposed project to provide you with an opportunity to comment. With your assistance, we would like to identify any resources located within or near the proposed project area that are of importance to the local Native American community and that could be affected by the proposed project. We will protect the confidentiality of information concerning the identity, location, character, and traditional use of cultural places identified by you. We will protect the confidentiality of information concerning the identity, location, character, and traditional use of cultural places identified during consultation.

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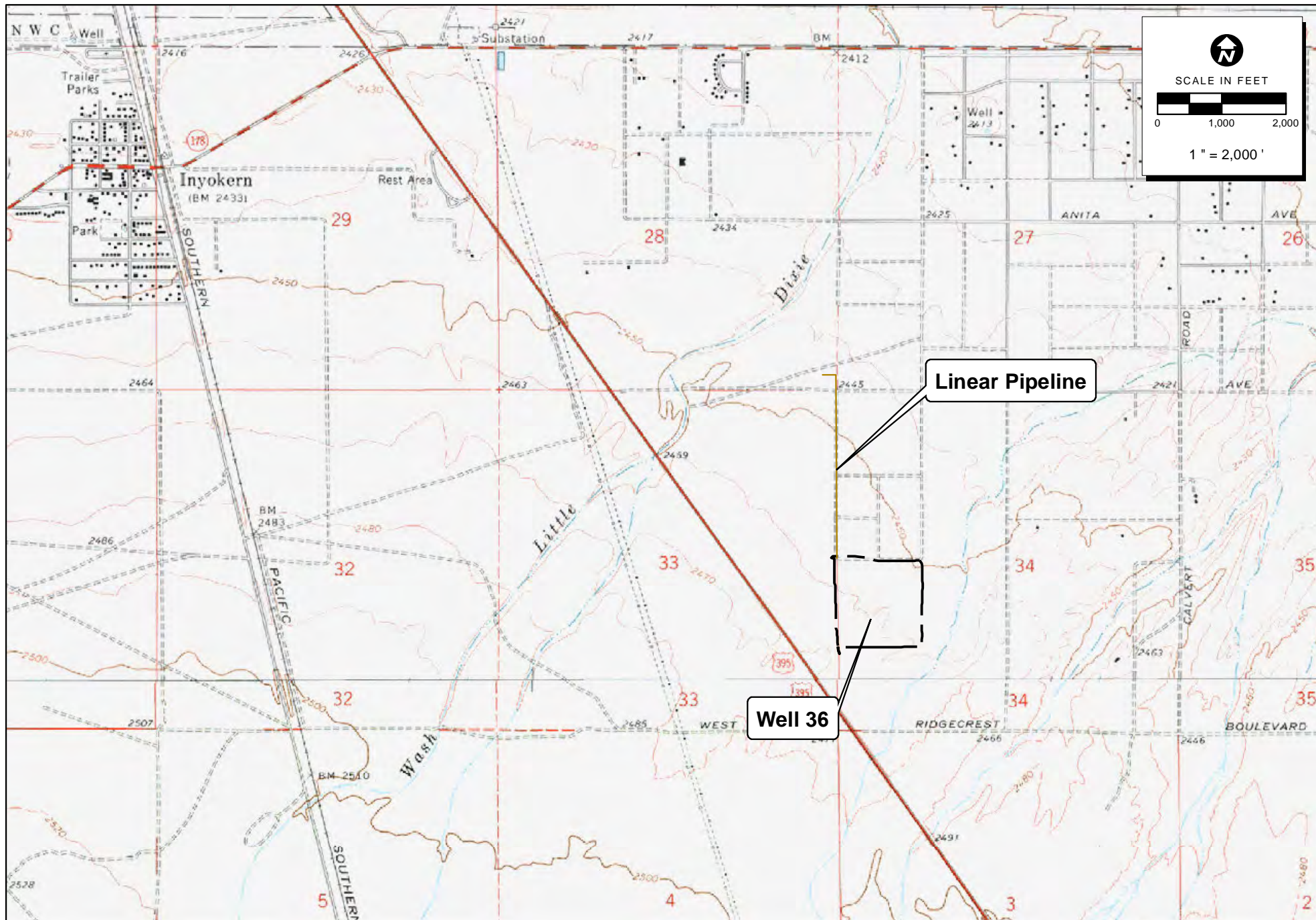
If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (909) 307-0046 or via email at edenniston@ecorpconsulting.com. Thank you for your assistance and participation in this project.

Sincerely,  
ECORP Consulting, Inc.



Elizabeth L. Denniston  
Senior Archaeologist

Enclosures: as stated



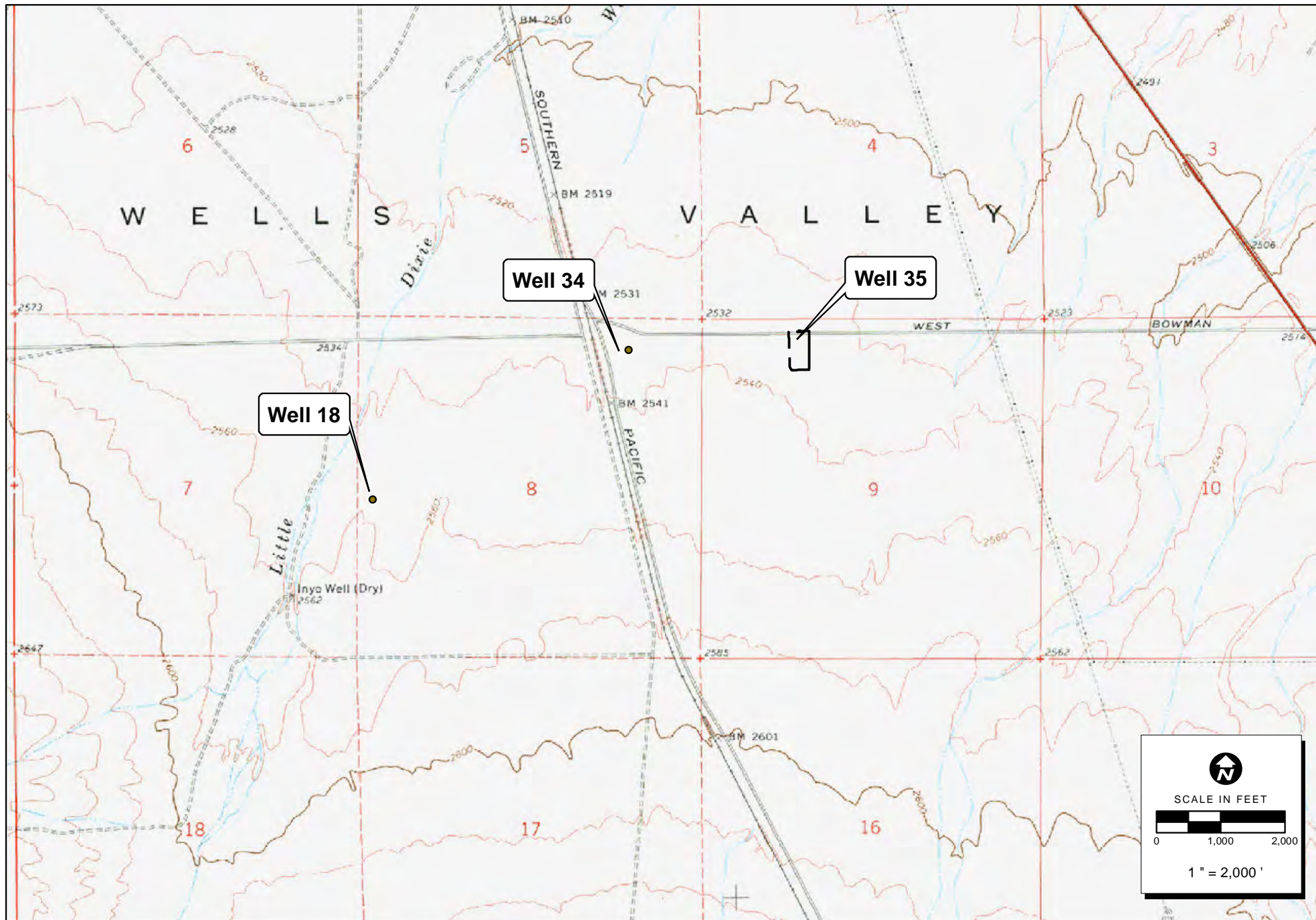
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Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search





Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_South.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



August 1, 2011  
(2010-132)

David Laughinghorse Robinson  
Kawaiisu Tribe of Tejon Reservation  
PO Box 1547  
Kernville ,CA 93238

**Subject:** *Indian Wells Valley Water District, Water Supply Improvement Project, Ridgecrest, Kern County, California*

Dear Mr. Laughinghorse Robinson:

Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWWVD) is proposing a water supply improvement project near Ridgecrest, Kern County, California. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase the water supply capacity in order to meet the existing water demand in the area. The proposed project includes improvements to two existing wells (Wells 18 and 34), the construction of two new wells (Wells 35 and 36), and the construction of a pipeline to serve Well 36.

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In order to identify cultural resources that could be affected by the proposed project, a records search has been conducted with the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center located at California State University, Bakersfield. Following the records search, a field survey of the project area was completed by qualified archaeologists from ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP).

As a result of the records search and field survey, one previously-recorded (P-15-012543) and one newly-recorded site (IWW-001) were identified. Site P-15-012543 was identified approximately 100 feet (30 meters) north of the northern terminus of the proposed pipeline serving Well 36. The site is described as remnants of a nineteenth century wagon trail, and will not be impacted by the proposed project.

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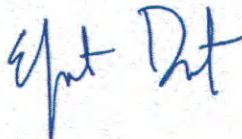
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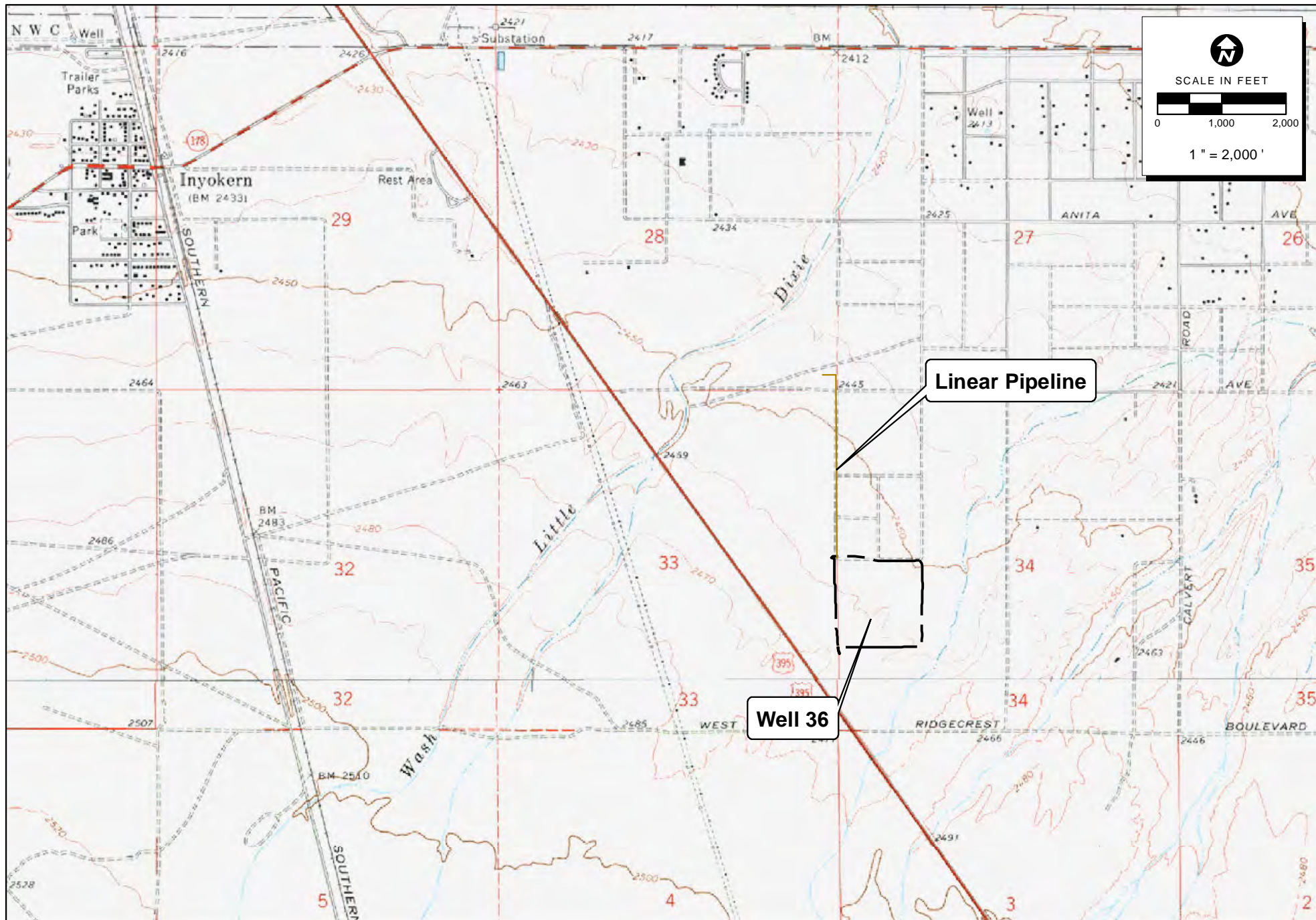
Sincerely,

ECORP Consulting, Inc.



Elizabeth L. Denniston  
Senior Archaeologist

Enclosures: as stated

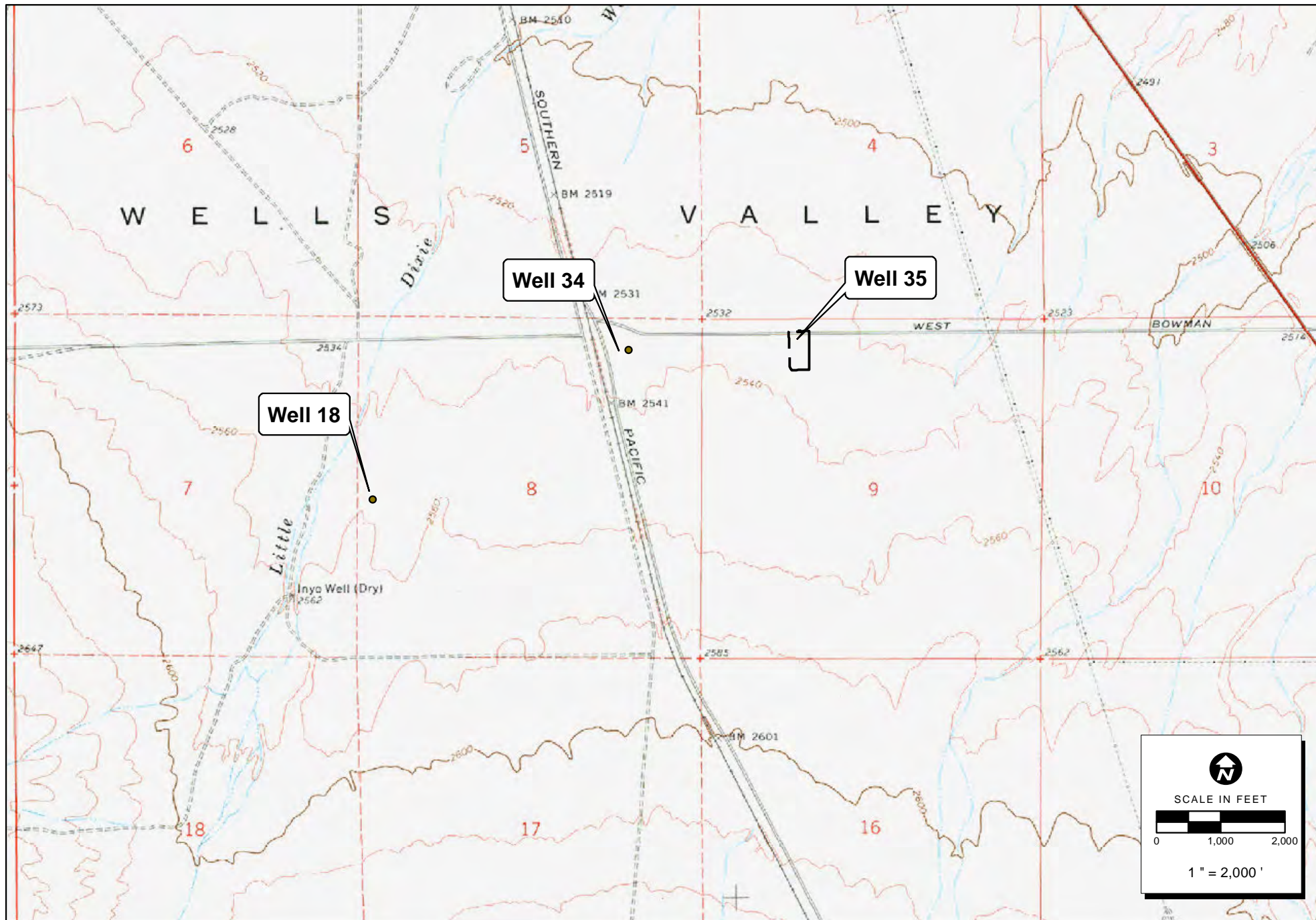


Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_North.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_South.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



August 1, 2011  
(2010-132)

Katherine Montes-Morgan, Chairperson  
Tejon Indian Tribe  
2234 4th Street  
Wasco, CA 93280

**Subject: *Indian Wells Valley Water District, Water Supply Improvement Project, Ridgecrest, Kern County, California***

Dear Ms. Montes-Morgan:

Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWWVD) is proposing a water supply improvement project near Ridgecrest, Kern County, California. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase the water supply capacity in order to meet the existing water demand in the area. The proposed project includes improvements to two existing wells (Wells 18 and 34), the construction of two new wells (Wells 35 and 36), and the construction of a pipeline to serve Well 36.

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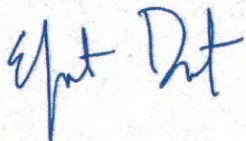
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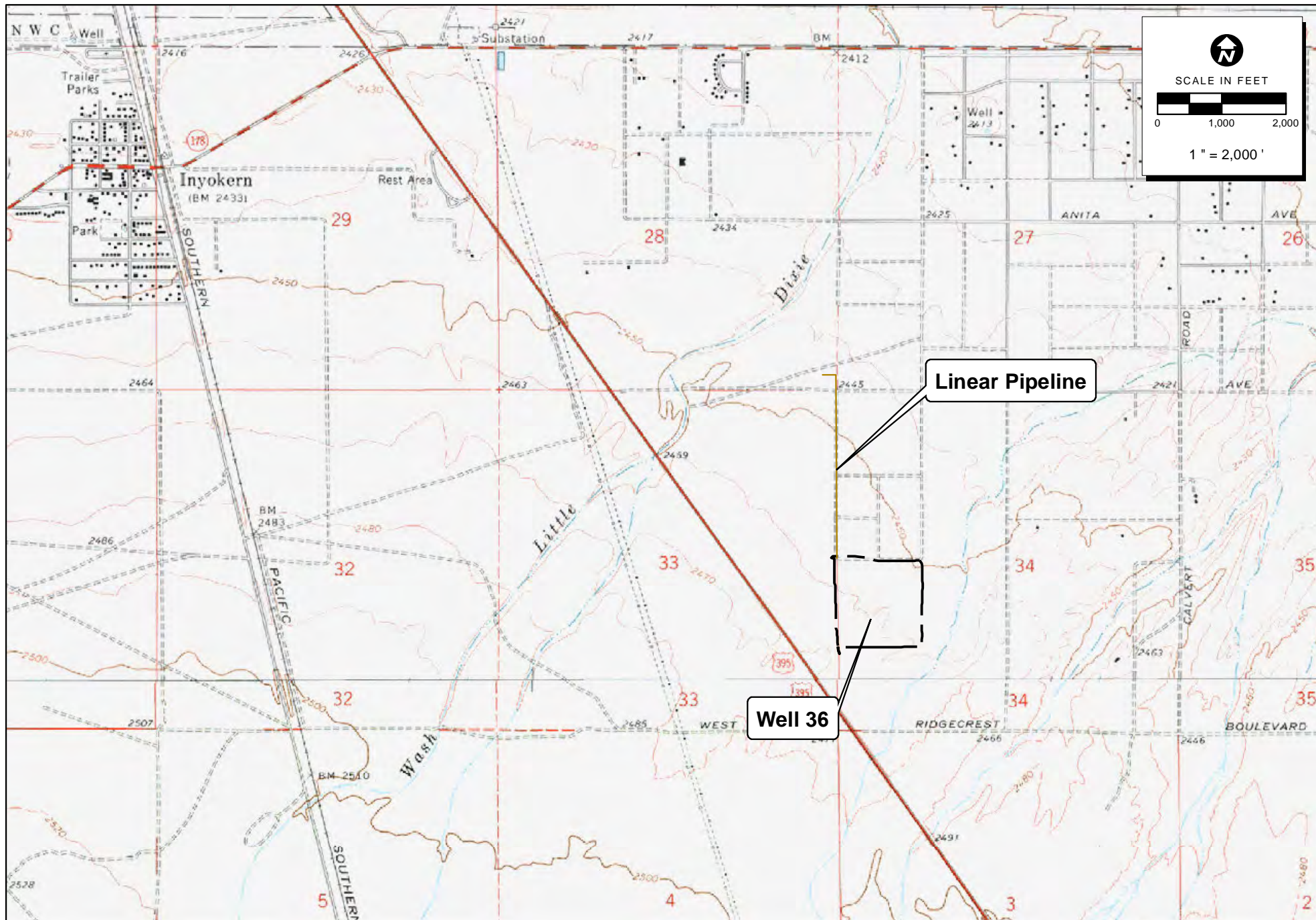
Sincerely,

ECORP Consulting, Inc.



Elizabeth L. Denniston  
Senior Archaeologist

Enclosures: as stated



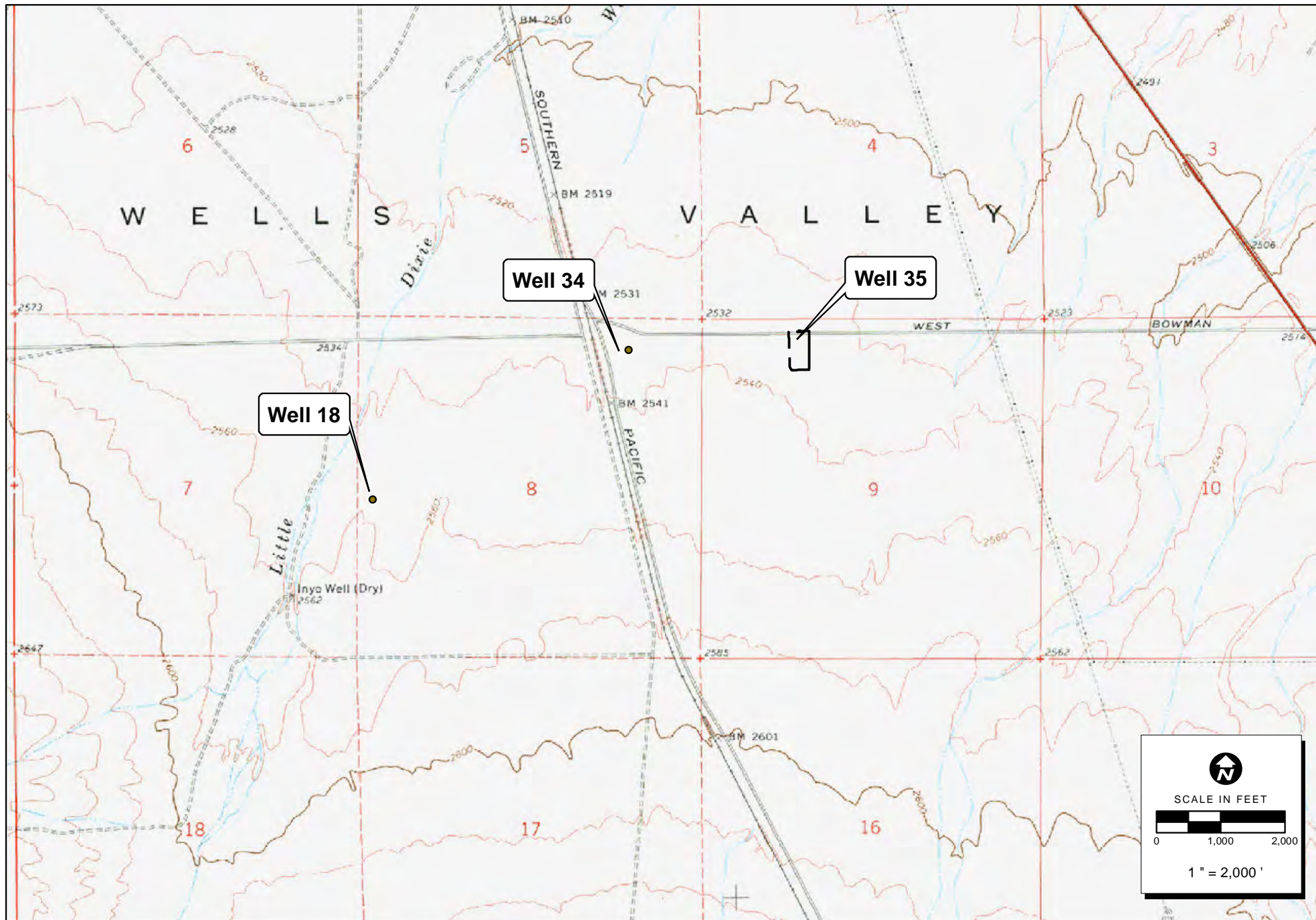
Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_North.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search





Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_South.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



August 1, 2011  
(2010-132)

Robert Robinson, Co-Chairperson  
Kern Valley Indian Council  
P.O. Box 401  
Weldon, CA 93283

**Subject: *Indian Wells Valley Water District, Water Supply Improvement Project, Ridgecrest, Kern County, California***

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWWVD) is proposing a water supply improvement project near Ridgecrest, Kern County, California. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase the water supply capacity in order to meet the existing water demand in the area. The proposed project includes improvements to two existing wells (Wells 18 and 34), the construction of two new wells (Wells 35 and 36), and the construction of a pipeline to serve Well 36.

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In order to identify cultural resources that could be affected by the proposed project, a records search has been conducted with the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center located at California State University, Bakersfield. Following the records search, a field survey of the project area was completed by qualified archaeologists from ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP).

Robert Robinson

Page 2 of 2

As a result of the records search and field survey, one previously-recorded (P-15-012543) and one newly-recorded site (IWW-001) were identified. Site P-15-012543 was identified approximately 100 feet (30 meters) north of the northern terminus of the proposed pipeline serving Well 36. The site is described as remnants of a nineteenth century wagon trail, and will not be impacted by the proposed project.

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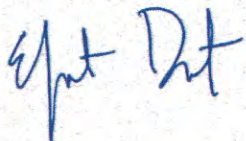
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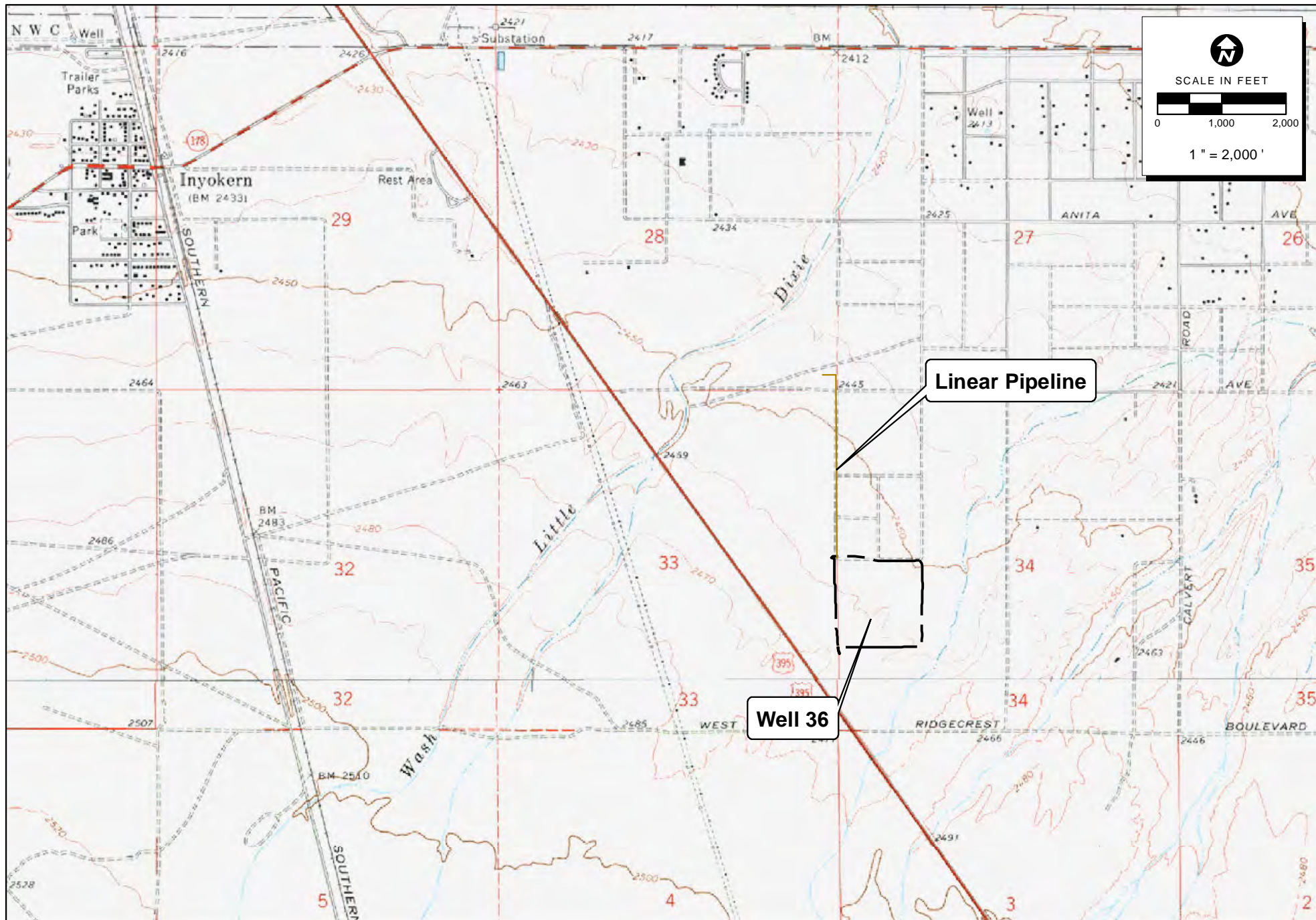
Sincerely,

ECORP Consulting, Inc.



Elizabeth L. Denniston  
Senior Archaeologist

Enclosures: as stated

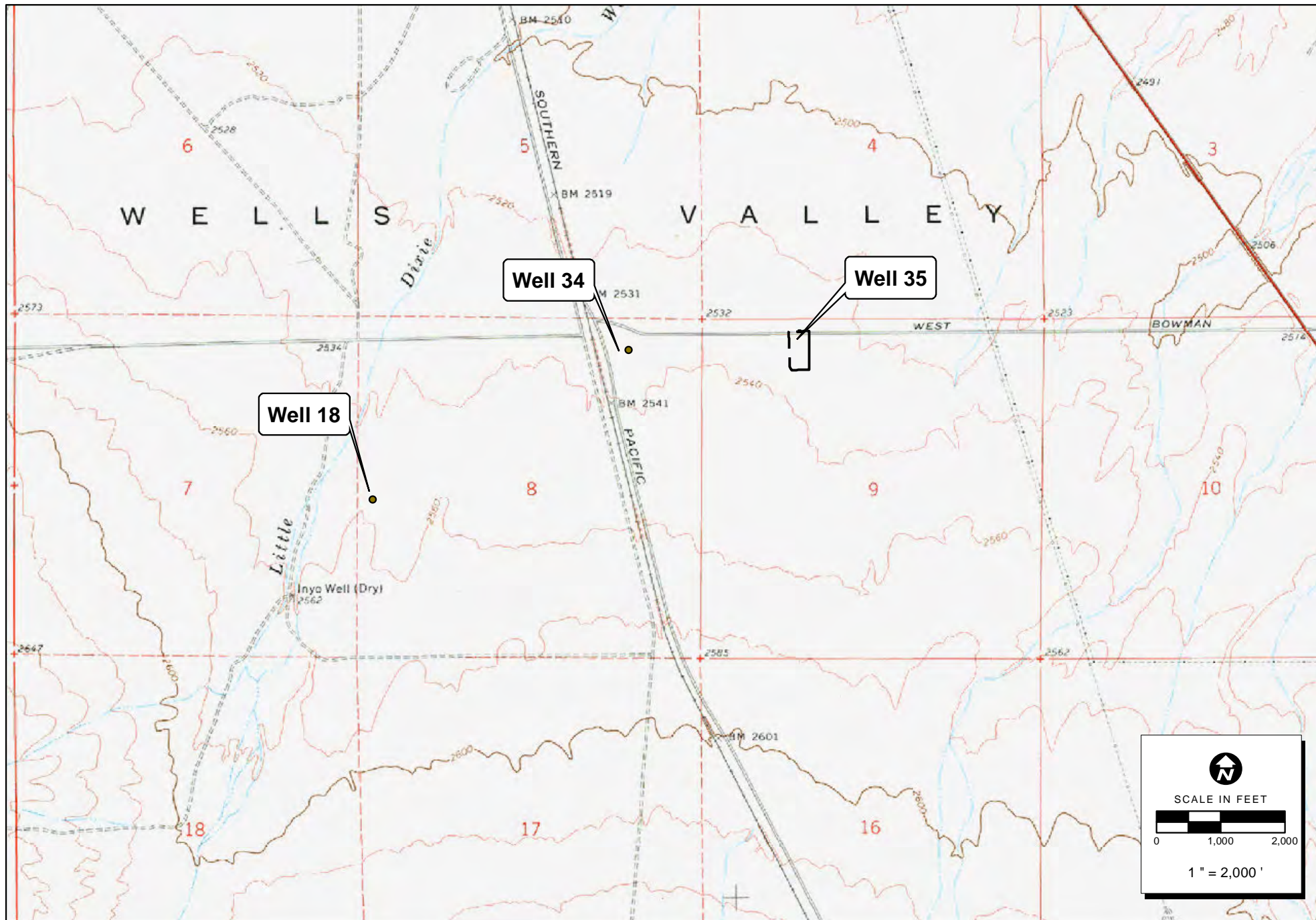


Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_North.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_South.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



August 1, 2011  
(2010-132)

John Valenzuela, Chairperson  
San Fernando Band of Mission Indians  
P.O. Box 221838  
Newhall, CA 91322

**Subject: *Indian Wells Valley Water District, Water Supply Improvement Project, Ridgecrest, Kern County, California***

Dear Mr. Valenzuela:

Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWWVD) is proposing a water supply improvement project near Ridgecrest, Kern County, California. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase the water supply capacity in order to meet the existing water demand in the area. The proposed project includes improvements to two existing wells (Wells 18 and 34), the construction of two new wells (Wells 35 and 36), and the construction of a pipeline to serve Well 36.

The attached maps show the location of the existing well sites, proposed well sites, and the proposed pipeline alignment currently under review. The project area is located within Sections 27, 28, 33, and 34 of Township 26 South, Range 39 East, and Sections 8, and 9, of Township 27 South, Range 39 East of the Mount Diablo Base Meridian, as seen on the U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles Inyokern and Inyokern SE, California.

Situated south of Bowman Road, existing Wells 18 and 34 are to the west and east of Bowman Road, respectively. Proposed Well 35 would be located on the south side of Bowman Road, within a 3.92-acre area comprised of Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 341-234-02 and -03. Proposed Well 36 would be located in the extreme southwest corner of APN of 352-250-33, a 20.33 acre property located at the southeast corner of Las Flores Avenue and N. Victor Street. The proposed 400-foot, 12- to 16-inch pipeline would extend north from proposed Well 37 along North Victor Street and tie in to the existing pipeline at Well 31 near Drummond Avenue (see attached maps).

In order to identify cultural resources that could be affected by the proposed project, a records search has been conducted with the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center located at California State University, Bakersfield. Following the records search, a field survey of the project area was completed by qualified archaeologists from ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP).

As a result of the records search and field survey, one previously-recorded (P-15-012543) and one newly-recorded site (IWW-001) were identified. Site P-15-012543 was identified approximately 100 feet (30 meters) north of the northern terminus of the proposed pipeline serving Well 36. The site is described as remnants of a nineteenth century wagon trail, and will not be impacted by the proposed project.

Newly-recorded site IWW-001 consists of a sparse, historic-period refuse deposit containing cans and glass fragments. The site measures 118 feet (east-west) by 43 feet (north-south) and is located within the northern portion of proposed Well 35. No prehistoric resources were identified within, or immediately adjacent to, the project area.

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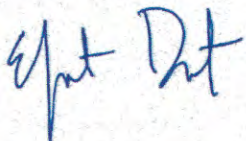
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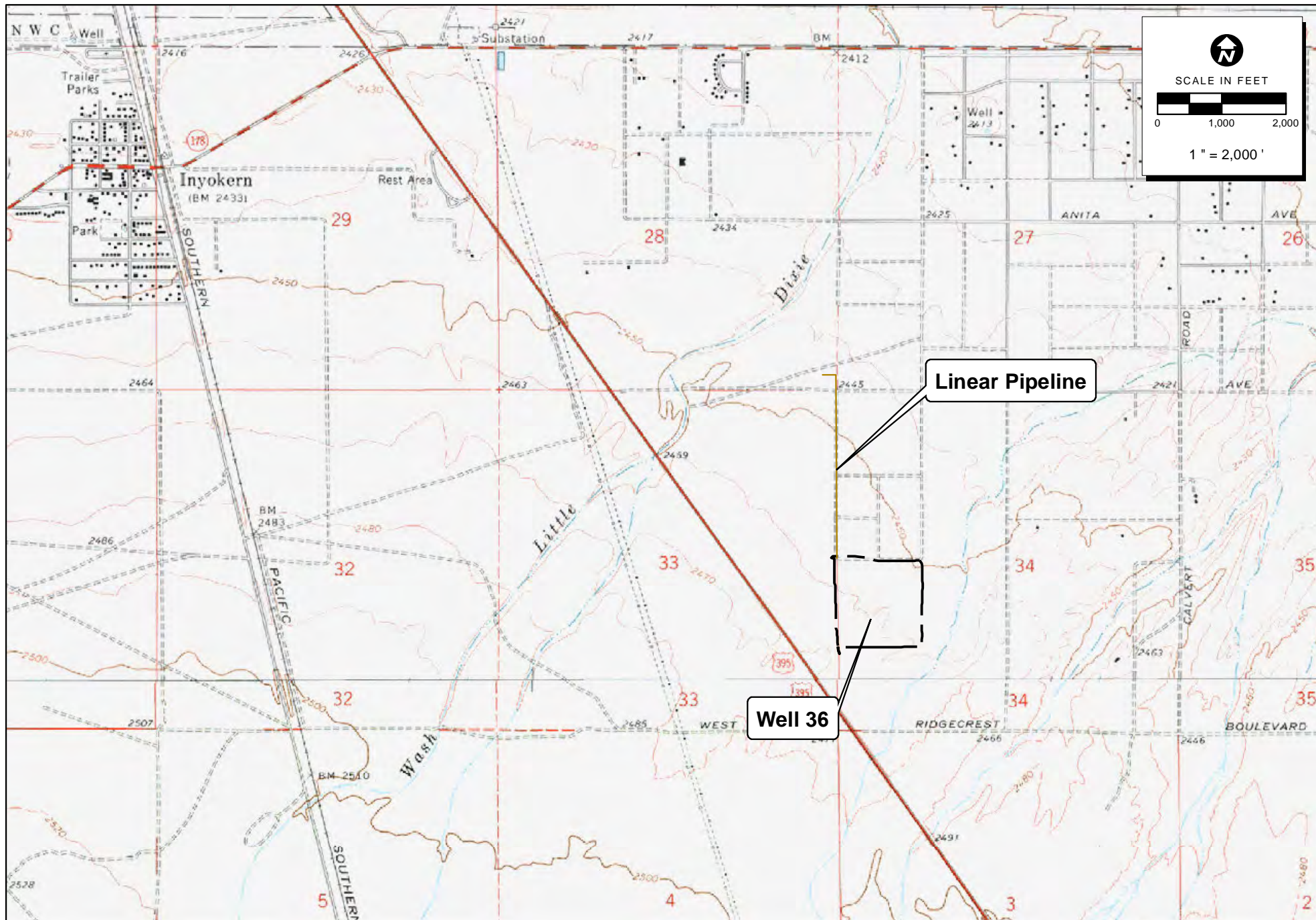
Sincerely,

ECORP Consulting, Inc.



Elizabeth L. Denniston  
Senior Archaeologist

Enclosures: as stated



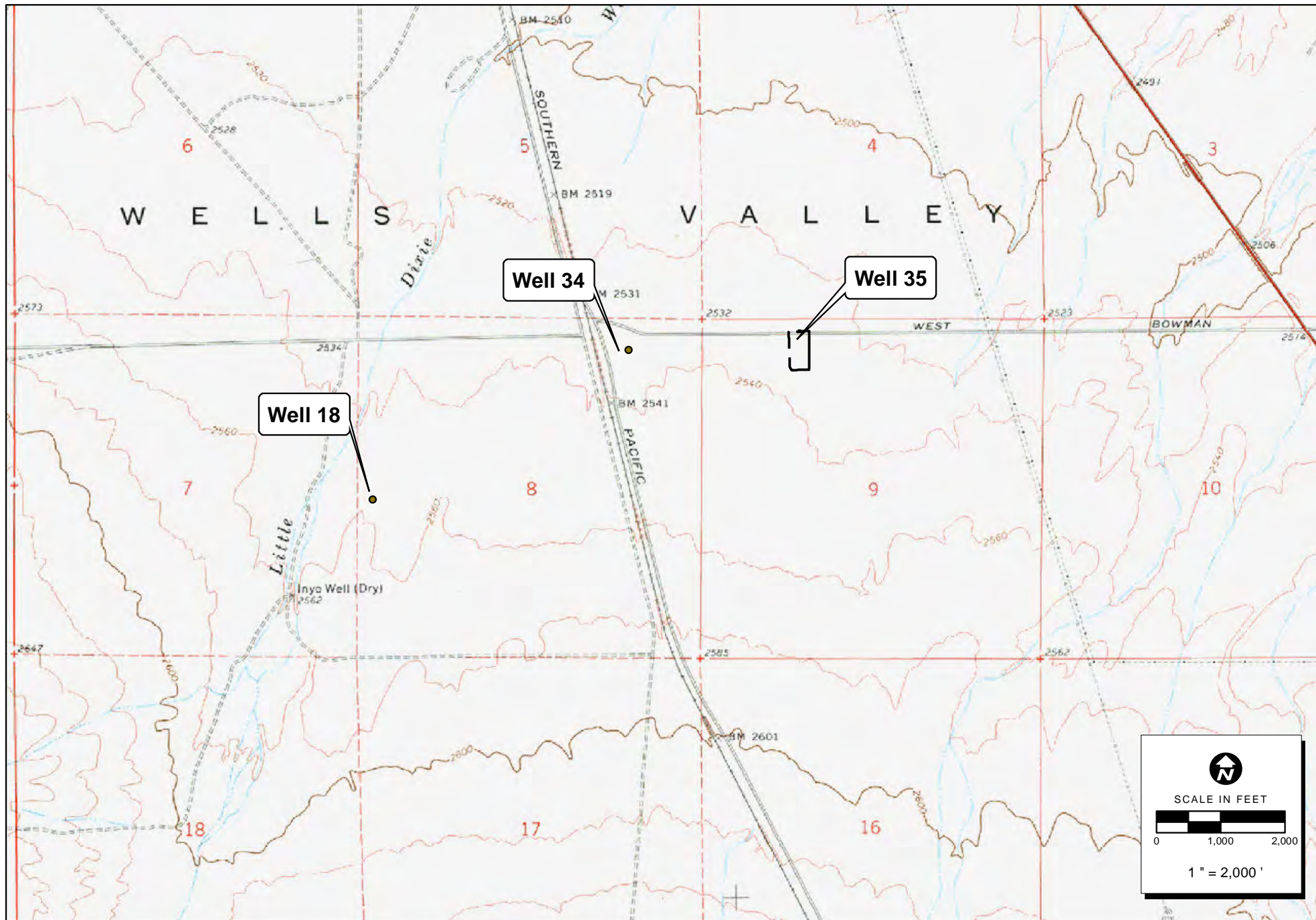
Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_North.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search





Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_South.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



August 1, 2011  
(2010-132)

Ron Wermuth  
P.O. Box 168  
Kernville ,CA 93238

**Subject:** *Indian Wells Valley Water District, Water Supply Improvement Project, Ridgecrest, Kern County, California*

Dear Mr. Wermuth:

Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWWVD) is proposing a water supply improvement project near Ridgecrest, Kern County, California. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase the water supply capacity in order to meet the existing water demand in the area. The proposed project includes improvements to two existing wells (Wells 18 and 34), the construction of two new wells (Wells 35 and 36), and the construction of a pipeline to serve Well 36.

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Ron Wermuth

Page 2 of 2

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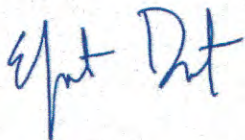
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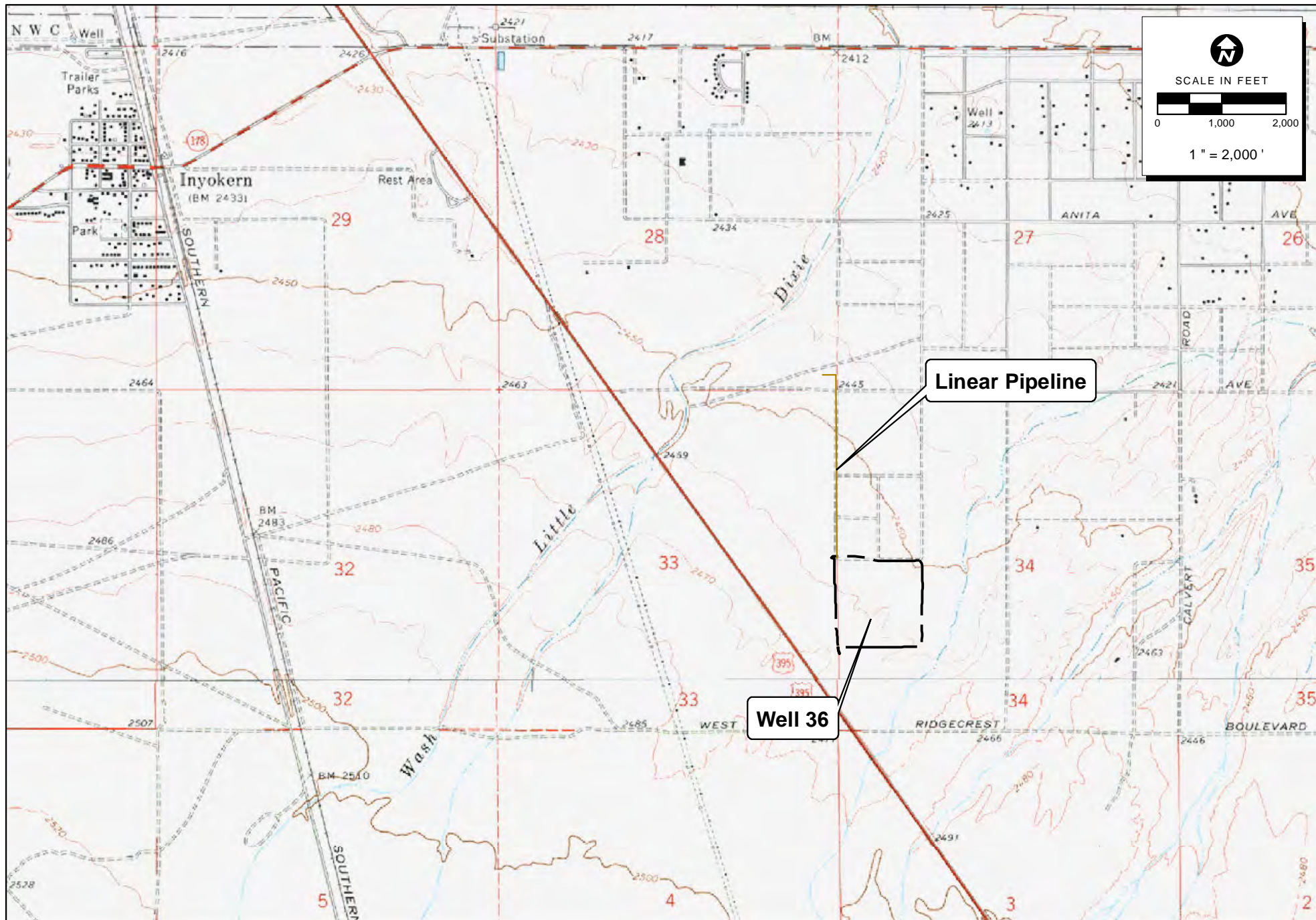
Sincerely,

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Elizabeth L. Denniston  
Senior Archaeologist

Enclosures: as stated

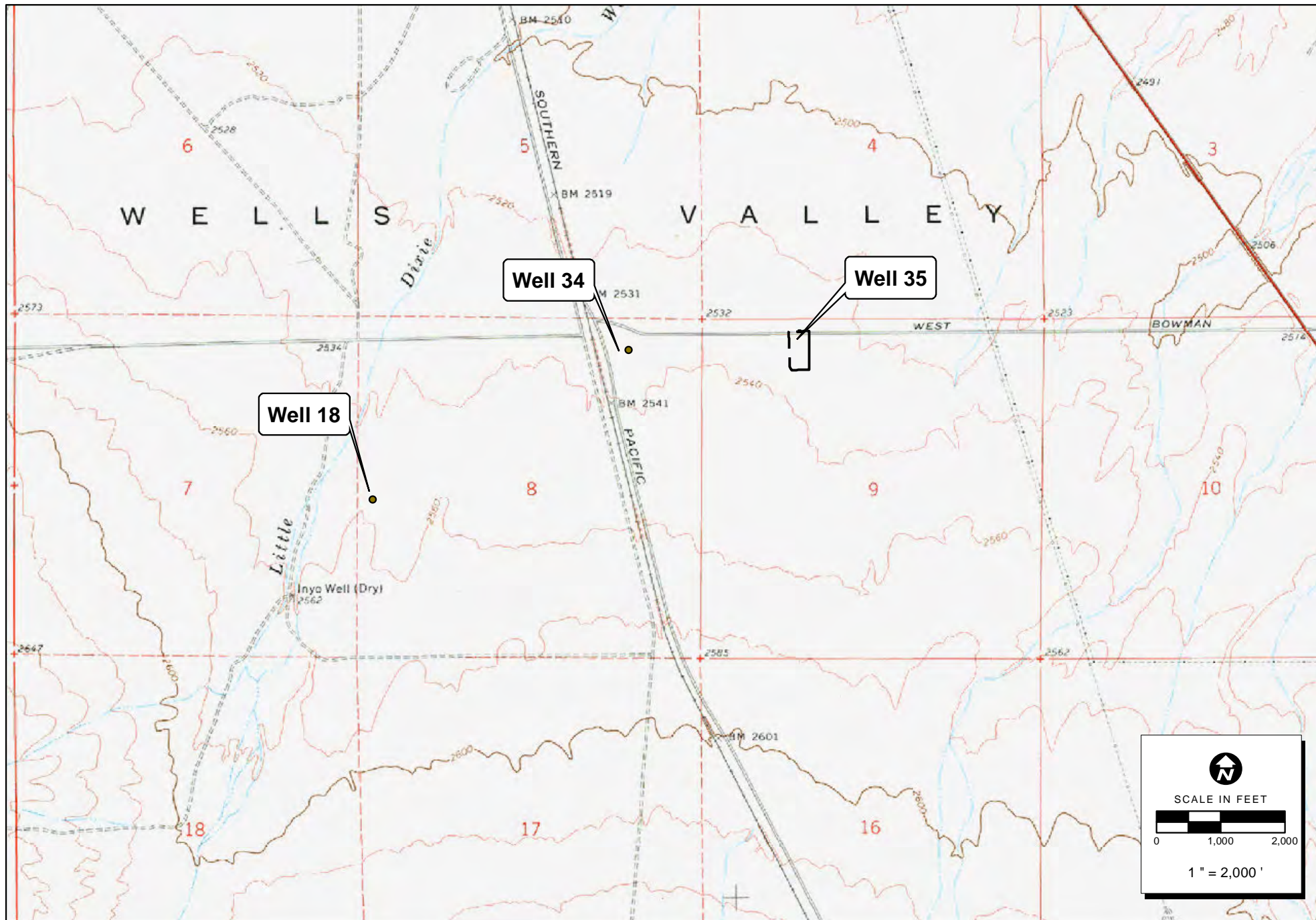


Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_North.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_South.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



August 1, 2011  
(2010-132)

Charlie Cooke  
Tehachapi Indian Tribe  
32835 Santiago Road  
Acton ,CA 93510

**Subject:** *Indian Wells Valley Water District, Water Supply Improvement Project, Ridgecrest, Kern County, California*

Dear Mr. Cooke:

Indian Wells Valley Water District (IWWVD) is proposing a water supply improvement project near Ridgecrest, Kern County, California. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase the water supply capacity in order to meet the existing water demand in the area. The proposed project includes improvements to two existing wells (Wells 18 and 34), the construction of two new wells (Wells 35 and 36), and the construction of a pipeline to serve Well 36.

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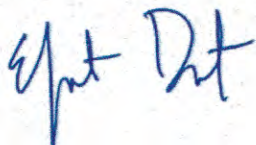
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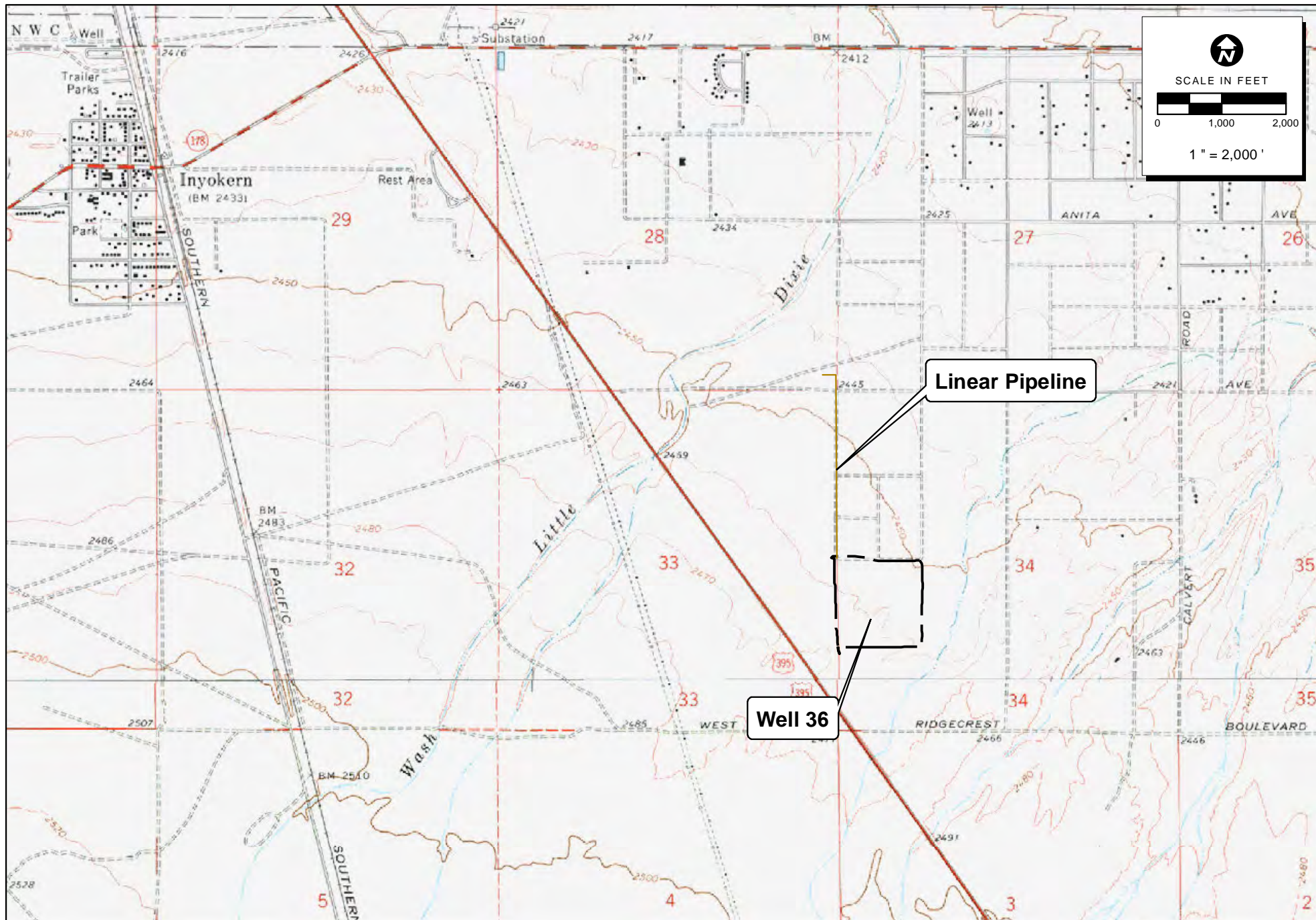
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Elizabeth L. Denniston  
Senior Archaeologist

Enclosures: as stated



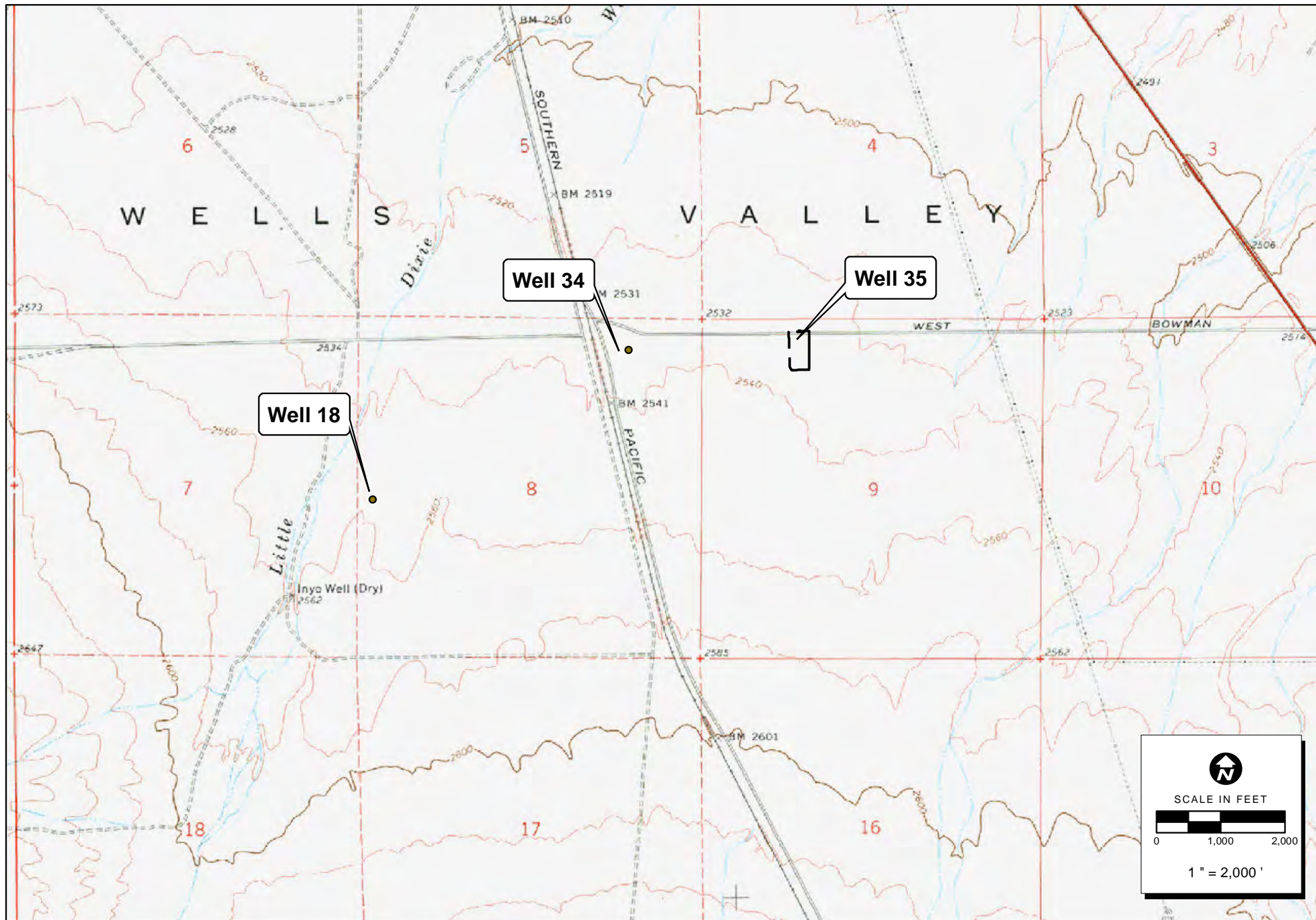
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Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search





Location: N:\2010\2010-132.003 Indian Wells\MAPS\Cultural\_Resources\Location\_Maps\Site\_Location\_South.mxd (KO 7/28/2011)

Map Date: 7/28/2011

## Project Location

2010-132 Indian Wells Record Search



**THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS APPENDIX  
IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC RELEASE**