

**Appendix D2    Cultural Resources Assessment –  
Additional Drainage Area (BCR Consulting)**

## Appendices

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# CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT

## Wilson III Project Additional Drainage Area Yucaipa, San Bernardino County, California

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Project No. RVA1405

### **National Archaeological Data Base Information:**

*Type of Study:* Class III Cultural Resources Assessment/Inventory

*Resources Recorded:* None

*Keywords:* Yucaipa

*USGS Quadrangle:* 7.5-minute Yucaipa, California (1996)



**BCRCONSULTING LLC**

November 7, 2014

## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to Ruth Villalobos & Associates to conduct a Class III Cultural Resources Assessment of the Wilson III Project Additional Drainage Area (project) in the City of Yucaipa, San Bernardino County, California. The work is being performed pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Section 106 of the NHPA), and to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). A cultural resources records search, field survey, Native American Consultation, and Paleontological Resources Assessment were conducted for the project. Data from the SBAIC revealed that 40 cultural resource studies have taken place resulting in the recording of 20 cultural resources within a one-mile radius of the APE. The nearest cultural resource was a prehistoric pottery site located approximately 100 meters to the south of the project site's southeastern corner. Of the 40 previous studies, three have previously assessed portions of the APE, but no cultural resources have been previously recorded within its boundaries. Results of the Native American Consultation are provided in Appendix A, project photos are included in Appendix B, and the Paleontological Resources Assessment is included in Appendix C.

During the field survey, BCR Consulting archaeologists did not discover any cultural resources (including prehistoric or historic archaeological sites or historic buildings) within the Wilson III Project Additional Drainage Area. As a result, BCR Consulting recommends a finding of no effect under Section 106 of the NHPA, and no impacts to historical resources under CEQA, for this undertaking. BCR Consulting also recommends that no additional cultural resources work or monitoring is necessary during proposed activities associated with the development of the APE. However, if previously undocumented cultural resources are identified during earthmoving activities, a qualified archaeologist should be contacted to assess the nature and significance of the find, diverting construction excavation if necessary.

If human remains are encountered during the undertaking, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY.....	ii
INTRODUCTION .....	1
AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS AND UNDERTAKING.....	1
NATURAL SETTING.....	1
GEOLOGY .....	1
HYDROLOGY .....	1
BIOLOGY .....	1
CULTURAL SETTING .....	3
PREHISTORY.....	3
ETHNOGRAPHY .....	3
HISTORY .....	3
PERSONNEL.....	4
METHODS.....	4
RESEARCH .....	4
FIELD SURVEY .....	4
RESULTS .....	5
RESEARCH .....	5
FIELD SURVEY .....	5
RECOMMENDATIONS.....	5
CERTIFICATION .....	6
REFERENCES .....	7

### APPENDICES

- A: NATIVE AMERICAN CONSULTATION
- B: PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT
- C: PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS

### FIGURES

1: Area of Potential Effects Map .....	2
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### TABLES

A: Cultural Resources and Reports Located within One Mile of APE .....	5
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## INTRODUCTION

BCR Consulting LLC (BCR Consulting) is under contract to conduct a Class III Cultural Resources Assessment of the Wilson III Project Additional Drainage Area (project) in the City of Yucaipa, San Bernardino County, California. The work is being performed pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Section 106 of the NHPA), and pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

## AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS

The Area of Potential Effects (APE), or project site, is located in Section 36, Township 1 South, Range 2 West, San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, in the City of Yucaipa, San Bernardino County, California. It is depicted on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) *Yucaipa, California* (1996) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle (Figure 1).

## NATURAL SETTING

### Geology

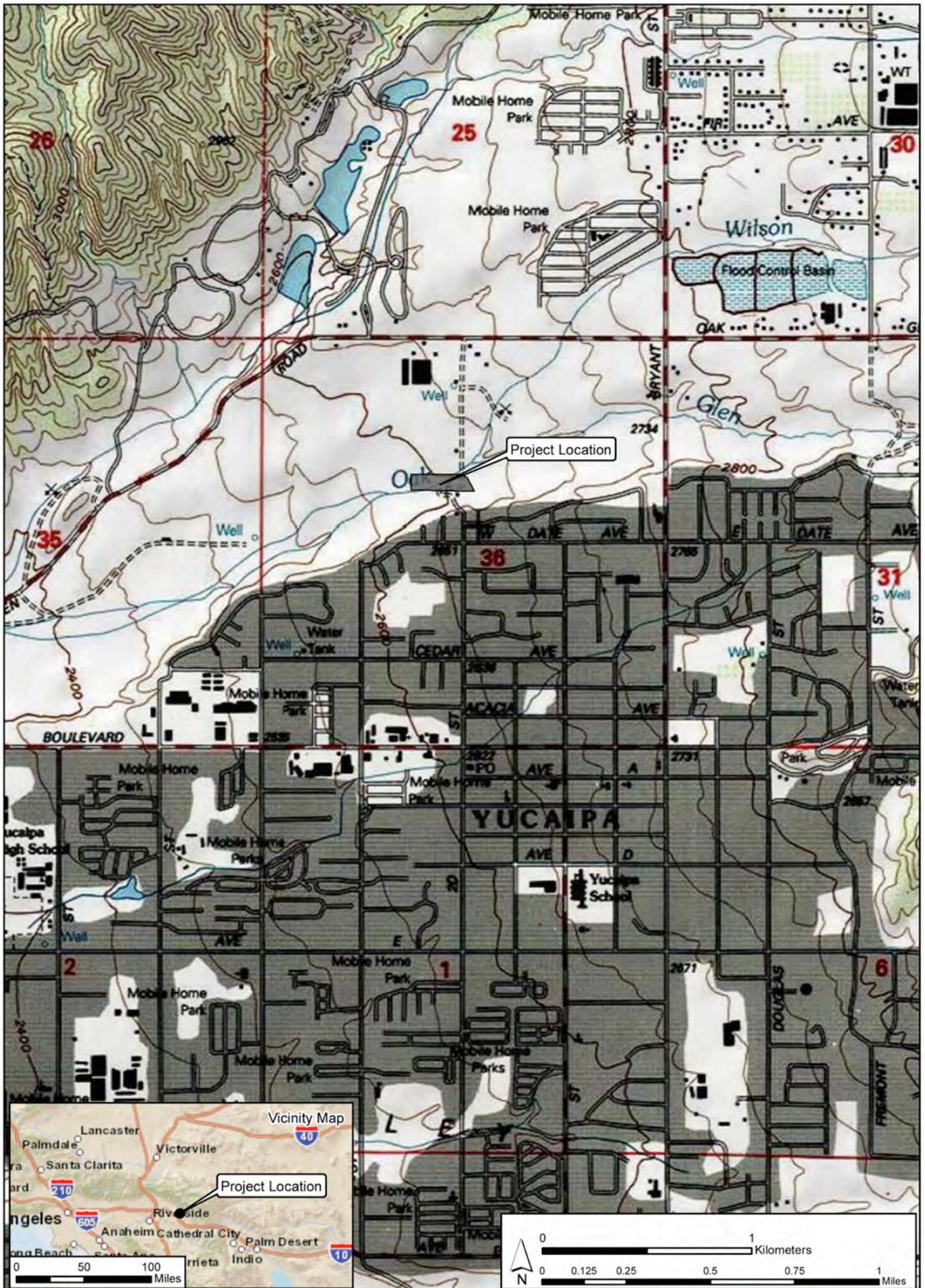
The project site is located at approximately 2600 feet above mean sea level (AMSL). It occupies alluvial deposits of the San Bernardino Mountains, in the Transverse Range Geologic province. The San Bernardino Mountains to the east are over 11,000 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) and are composed of Jurassic and Cretaceous granitic rocks, which have intruded and metamorphosed older rocks (Rewis et al. 2006; Morton 1978a and 1978b). Sediments observed within the project site include coarse to fine silty sand, and granitic and quartz cobbles and poorly sorted gravels. None of the materials observed were suitable for the manufacture of prehistoric chipped stone tools.

### Hydrology

Local rainfall ranges from seven to 12 inches annually (Jaeger and Smith 1971:36-37). Precipitation usually occurs in the form of winter and spring rain or snow at high elevations, with occasional warm monsoonal showers in late summer. The project site occupies a portion of Oak Glen Creek, a drainage that meanders in a southwesterly direction (USGS 1996). The creek has been partially channelized within the project site by a low berm along its northern bank, and is interrupted by an unpaved road (2<sup>nd</sup> Street) at the project site's eastern boundary. In spite of these impacts and surrounding residential developments, the project site retains a natural appearance, and exhibits little invasive vegetation or non-native sediments.

### Biology

The project site contains native stands of mixed riparian and coastal sage scrub vegetation communities (see Williams et al. 2008), which appear to be well preserved and are easily identified in the creek channel and along its banks. Mature arroyo willow, cottonwood trees, and buckwheat were all present throughout the project site. Some non-native seasonal grasses were present along the southern bank. For prehistoric use of local vegetation see Lightfoot and Parrish (2009).



Project Location Site  
Wilson III Project Additional Drainage Area

Figure 1

Ruth Villalobos & Associates  
11829 Mt. Gunnison Court  
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## CULTURAL SETTING

### Prehistory

Two primary regional syntheses are commonly utilized in the archaeological literature for southern California. Wallace defined the first of these syntheses in 1955, comprising four successive cultural horizons: Early Man, Milling Stone, Intermediate, and Late Prehistoric. In 1984 Warren devised a new synthesis containing five culturally-defined periods, which represented the region's first attempt at an ecologically based and comprehensive approach. These include the Lake Mojave, Pinto, Gypsum, Saratoga Springs, and Protohistoric Periods. Environmental shifts defined their parameters, and Warren viewed changes in settlement patterns and subsistence focus as cultural adaptations to these shifts. The most obvious indications of the changing environment are derived from paleo-ecological data which revealed the following trends: warming during the late Pleistocene, drying of desert lakes and subsequent (and brief) return to pluvial conditions during the Holocene and middle Holocene, and a general warming and drying trend (with occasional reversals) that continue into the modern era (Warren 1984).

### Ethnography

The project site is situated within the traditional boundaries of the Cahuilla, who belong to the Cupan group of the Takic subfamily of languages (Bean and Smith 1978). Like other Native American groups in southern California, they practiced semi-nomadic hunter-gatherer subsistence strategies and commonly exploited seasonably available plant and animal resources. Spanish missionaries were the first outsiders to encounter these groups during the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. The Cahuilla are generally divided into three groups: Desert Cahuilla, Mountain Cahuilla, and Western (or Pass) Cahuilla (Kroeber 1925; Bean and Smith 1978). The term Western Cahuilla is preferred over Pass Cahuilla because this group is not confined to the San Gorgonio Pass area. The distinctions are believed to be primarily geographic, although linguistic and cultural differences may have existed to varying degrees (Strong 1929). Cahuilla territory lies within the geographic center of Southern California and the Cocopa-Maricopa Trail, a major prehistoric trade route, ran through it. The first written accounts of the Cahuilla are attributed to mission fathers; later documentation was by Strong (1929) and others.

### History

Historic-era California is generally divided into three periods: the Spanish or Mission Period (1769 to 1821), the Mexican or Rancho Period (1821 to 1848), and the American Period (1848 to present).

**Spanish Period.** The first European to pass through the area is thought to be a Spaniard called Father Francisco Garces. Having become familiar with the area, Garces acted as a guide to Juan Bautista de Anza, who had been commissioned to lead a group across the desert from a Spanish outpost in Arizona to set up quarters at the Mission San Gabriel in 1771 near what today is Pasadena (Beck and Haase 1974). Garces was followed by Alta California Governor Pedro Fages, who briefly explored the region in 1772. Searching for San Diego Presidio deserters, Fages had traveled through Riverside to San Bernardino, crossed over the mountains into the Mojave Desert, and then journeyed westward to the San Joaquin Valley (Beck and Haase 1974). Locally, the San Gabriel mission established the original Asistencia (or Estancia) in 1819 as an outpost for cattle grazing.

**Mexican Period.** In 1821, Mexico overthrew Spanish rule and the missions began to decline. By 1833, the Mexican government passed the Secularization Act, and the missions, reorganized as parish churches, lost their vast land holdings, and released their neophytes (Beattie and Beattie 1974).

**American Period.** The American Period, 1848–Present, began with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. In 1850, California was accepted into the Union of the United States primarily due to the population increase created by the Gold Rush of 1849. The cattle industry reached its greatest prosperity during the first years of the American Period. Mexican Period land grants had created large pastoral estates in California, and demand for beef during the Gold Rush led to a cattle boom that lasted from 1849–1855. However, beginning about 1855, the demand for beef began to decline due to imports of sheep from New Mexico and cattle from the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys. When the beef market collapsed, many California ranchers lost their ranchos through foreclosure. A series of disastrous floods in 1861–1862, followed by a significant drought diminished the economic impact of local ranching. This decline combined with ubiquitous agricultural and real estate developments of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, set the stage for diversified economic pursuits that have continued to proliferate to this day (Beattie and Beattie 1974; Cleland 1941).

## PERSONNEL

David Brunzell, M.A., RPA acted as the Project Manager and Principal Investigator for the current study. BCR Consulting Staff Archaeologist Maximilian Van Rensselaer performed the cultural resources records search at the San Bernardino Archaeological Information Center (SBAIC) located at the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands, California. Mr. Brunzell compiled the technical report, and completed the field survey with assistance from Mr. Van Rensselaer.

## METHODS

### Research

An archaeological records search was conducted at the SBAIC on November 4, 2014, prior to fieldwork. This included a review of all recorded historic and prehistoric cultural resources, as well as a review of known cultural resources, and survey and excavation reports generated from projects located within one mile of the APE. In addition, a review was conducted of the National Register of Historic Places (National Register), the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register), and documents and inventories from the California Office of Historic Preservation including the lists of California Historical Landmarks, California Points of Historical Interest, Listing of National Register Properties, and the Inventory of Historic Structures.

### Field Survey

An archaeological pedestrian field survey of the APE was conducted on November 4, 2014. The survey was conducted by walking parallel transects spaced approximately 15 meters apart across 100 percent of the accessible APE. Soil exposures, including natural and artificial clearings were carefully inspected for evidence of cultural resources.

## RESULTS

### Research

Data from the SBAIC revealed that 40 cultural resource studies have taken place resulting in the recording of 20 cultural resources within a one-mile radius of the APE. The nearest cultural resource was a prehistoric pottery scatter reported (though not recorded by archaeologists) approximately 100 meters to the south of the project site’s southeastern corner. Of the 40 previous studies, three have previously assessed portions of the APE, but no cultural resources have been previously recorded within its boundaries. The records search is summarized as follows:

**Table A. Cultural Resources and Reports Located Within One Mile of the APE**

USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle	Cultural Resources Within One Half-Mile of APE	Studies Within One Half-Mile of APE
<i>Yucaipa</i> (1996)	P-36-911, 1001/H, 5475, 10322H, 14468, 14993, 18748, 23097, 23366, 23367, 23368, 23369, 24031; P-1064-35H, 42, 43, 44, 45, 36H, 49H	SB-1060121, 1060306, 1060334, 1060335, 1060477, 1060581, 1060594, 1060634, 1061356, 1061357*, 1061576, 1062868, 1063129, 1063259, 1063611, 1063616, 1064112, 1064114, 1064115, 1064119, 1064120, 1064121, 1064122, 1064124, 1064227, 1064842, 1064843*, 1064844, 1065676, 1065681, 1066021, 1066076, 1066077, 1066135, 1066137, 1066418, 1066503, 1066627, 1067651*, 1066834

\*Previously assessed a portion of the APE.

### Field Survey

During the field survey, BCR Consulting personnel carefully inspected the APE, and identified no cultural resources within its boundaries. Mature arroyo willow, cottonwood trees, and buckwheat were all present throughout the project site. Some non-native seasonal grasses were present along the southern bank of Oak Glen Creek. Visibility averaged approximately 50 percent. Sediments observed within the project site include coarse to fine silty sand, and granitic and quartz cobbles and poorly sorted gravels.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

BCR Consulting conducted a Class III Cultural Resources Assessment of the Wilson III Project Additional Drainage Area in the City of Yucaipa, San Bernardino County, California. This work was completed pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA, as amended, and pursuant to CEQA. The records search and field survey did not identify any cultural resources (including prehistoric or historic archaeological sites or historic-period buildings) within the APE. Furthermore, research results combined with surface conditions have failed to indicate sensitivity for buried cultural resources. As a result, BCR Consulting recommends a finding of no effect under Section 106 of the NHPA, and no impacts to historical resources under CEQA, for this undertaking. BCR Consulting also recommends that no additional cultural resources work or monitoring is necessary during proposed activities associated with the development of the APE. However, if previously undocumented cultural resources are identified during earthmoving activities, a qualified archaeologist should be contacted to assess the nature and significance of the find, diverting construction excavation if necessary.

If human remains are encountered during the undertaking, State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 states that no further disturbance shall occur until the County Coroner has made a determination of origin and disposition pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. The County Coroner must be notified of the find immediately. If the remains are determined to be prehistoric, the Coroner will notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), which will determine and notify a Most Likely Descendant (MLD). With the permission of the landowner or his/her authorized representative, the MLD may inspect the site of the discovery. The MLD shall complete the inspection within 48 hours of notification by the NAHC.

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached appendices present the data and information required for this archaeological report, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date: November 7, 2014	
	David Brunzell
Authorized Signature	Printed Name
Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA)	

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**APPENDIX A**

**NATIVE AMERICAN CONSULTATION**

# **APPENDIX B**

## **PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS**



Photo 1: APE at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (South)

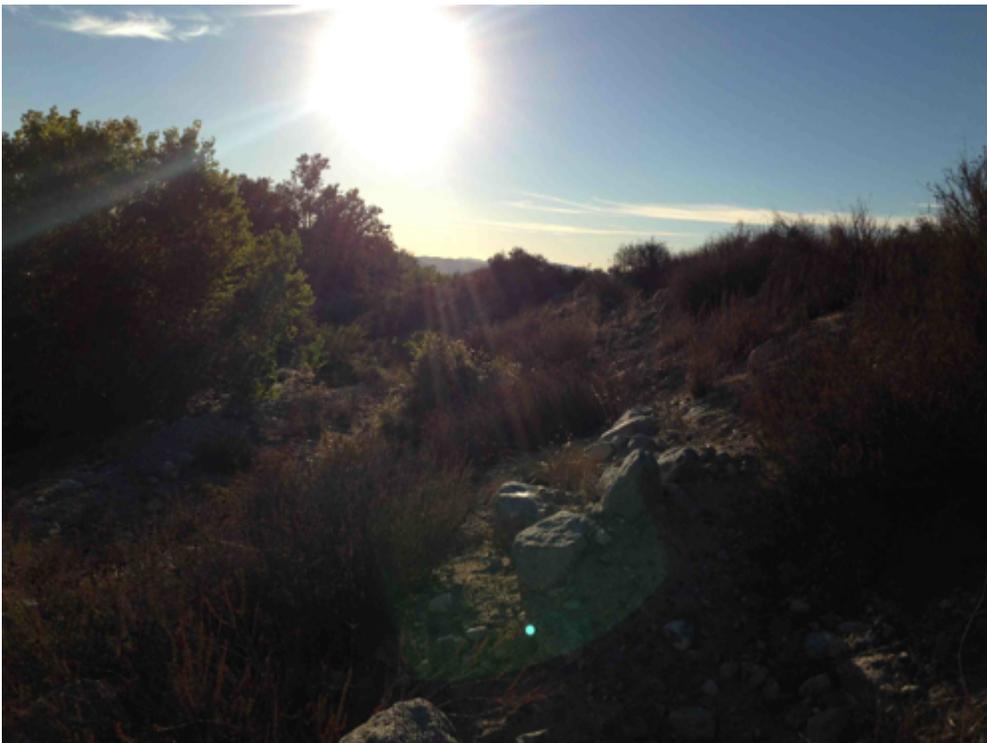


Photo 2: APE Overview in Glen Creek (West)

**APPENDIX C**

**PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT**