To: California Public Utilities Commission
From: Frontier Communications
Date: January 9th, 2026
Subject: Environmental Resource Memo – Expected Categorical Exemption
Project: Frontier Fiber Installation Project, Riverside County, CA – North Shore

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE MEMORANDUM: Categorical Exemption

1. Purpose and Context

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide and document existing environmental conditions and summarize key regulatory considerations associated with Frontier's proposed fiber-installation project in Riverside County, California that support a Categorical Exemption determination for the project.

This information is intended to facilitate the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) review of the project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; Pub. Res. Code §21000 et seq.). The following sections provide an overview of Frontier's proposed project design and construction activities, the environmental resources within the project area, and applicable federal, state, and local regulations, which, based on Frontier's analysis, demonstrate that a Categorical Exemption is appropriate for the project.

2. Project Description and Setting

Frontier proposes fiber-optic installation to provide improved broadband connectivity within Riverside County, California along the North Shore of the Salton Sea. The proposed route begins as two separate routes: one starting just east of the intersection of 70th Street and Hayes Street, and the other starting just east of the intersection of 71st Avenue and Wheeler Street. From these starting points, the routes extend eastward into the North Shore and Desert Beach communities (see Figure 1). Portions of the project corridor overlap the Salton Sea State Recreation Area, owned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and managed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR), as well as land administered by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM); Palm Springs/South Coast Field Office.

The current design is to follow existing utility pathways (i.e. where communications and/or other utility infrastructure is currently present) and install fiber using a combination of existing infrastructure, supplemented by new underground conduit to be installed by boring or trenching and/or aerial installations (i.e. overlashing). New infrastructure is to be installed within existing rights-of-way (ROW) and authorized utility easements in areas where previous ground-disturbance activities have occurred. Primary

activities are expected to include placing conduit, installing hand-holes, and minor surface restoration. Frontier intends to use existing access routes to minimize disturbance and to limit work areas to graded road shoulders and other disturbed surfaces, to the extent practicable, to minimize new ground disturbance.

3. Key Environmental Considerations – Initial Reviews

The following subsections summarize baseline conditions for biological, cultural, hydrologic, and land management considerations.

3.1 Special-Status Species and Sensitive Biological Resources

The Salton Sea and its surrounding desert and wetland-influenced landscape provide regionally significant habitat that supports diverse avian, aquatic, and desert-adapted species (Figure 2). The project corridor includes habitats potentially suitable for several special-status species protected under federal and state law. The following sections identify species with the potential to occur within the project area. A complete species list is provided in Attachment A.

Federally Listed Species

Although the project route primarily follows currently occupied and previously disturbed ROWs, adjacent creosote bush scrub and sandy alluvial soils may support federally listed species protected under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Frontier has conducted a database review using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) tool, which identified several federally listed species that could occur within the project vicinity, including:

- **Mojave desert tortoise** (*Gopherus agassizii*) – desert scrub habitat, typically with creosote bush and friable sandy soils.
- **Desert pupfish** (*Cyprinodon macularius*) – shallow, slow-moving waters in drains and irrigation canals connected to the Salton Sea.
- **Yuma Ridgway's rail** (*Rallus obsoletus yumanensis*) and **southwestern willow flycatcher** (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) – emergent wetlands and riparian habitats along the Salton Sea margin.

Based on a desktop review of existing habitat conditions and current design, Frontier does not anticipate direct impacts to the desert pupfish, Yuma ridgeway rail, and southwestern willow flycatcher, as work is planned to occur within existing disturbed transportation and utility corridors where suitable habitat is limited. The project area provides potential habitat for the Mojave desert tortoise, which may burrow in loose soils within or adjacent to the project area or traverse nearby roads.

State-Listed and Other Special-Status Species

Frontier identified the following state-status wildlife and plant species in California Natural Diversity Database CNDDB searches for the Riverside County project area, which have the

potential to occur within or adjacent to the disturbed project corridor based on available habitat conditions.

- **Burrowing Owl** (*Athene cunicularia*) – California Species of Special Concern; protected under California Fish and Game Code §§3503 and 3503.5. Inhabits open desert scrub, agricultural fields, and disturbed lands where small mammal burrows are available for nesting.
- **Mecca-aster** (*Xylorhiza cognata*) - Occurs in clay and gravelly soils of desert scrub and washes. Potentially present on disturbed desert flats along the project route (CRPR 1B.2).
- **Orocopia Sage** (*Salvia greatae*) - Found on rocky slopes and alluvial fans in desert scrub; potential habitat occurs near the southern project area (CRPR 1B.3).
- **Chaparral Sand-Verbena** (*Abronia villosa var. aurita*) - Occurs on sandy flats and dunes in desert scrub; may occur in more natural portions of the corridor (CRPR 1B.1).
- **Latimer's Woodland-Gilia** (*Saltugilia latimeri*) - Occupies sandy and gravelly desert soils; potential for occurrence near the North Shore area (CRPR 1B.2).

Although potential for species presence exists, the localized nature of the project (i.e. limited to narrow corridors where utility infrastructure is currently present and using aerial or HDD installation methods), substantially reduces the likelihood of direct and indirect impacts to these species. Suitable habitat for the burrowing owl likely exists along the project corridor where disturbed shoulders and embankments may provide burrowing opportunities.

Coordination with CDFW

Frontier initiated early coordination with CDFW on November 5th, 2025. A project description and preliminary evaluation identifying potentially suitable habitat for burrowing owl and desert tortoise were transmitted to the appropriate regional office. CDFW subsequently indicated that they are consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding the project. A formal response from CDFW has not been received to date. Frontier will continue coordination with the agency and will provide supplemental information to CPUC as additional feedback becomes available.

Migratory Birds and Nesting Habitat

The project area supports numerous bird species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and California Fish and Game Code §§3503, 3503.5, and 3513. Migratory bird species can use ground cover vegetation, shrubs and trees to nest. Although vegetation is sparse throughout the project area, migratory birds in this region can nest in shrubs which are present within and adjacent to the project area between February 1st to August 15th.

3.2 Cultural Resources

On October 8, 2025, Frontier initiated, through a Secretary of the Interior qualified archaeologist, a cultural resources records request to the South Coastal Information Center

(SCIC) to identify previously recorded archaeological sites, historic-era resources, and prior cultural studies within and adjacent to the proposed project alignment. Based on records received from SCIC and a review of additional publicly available sources, a desktop cultural resources report was prepared (Attachment B).

The records search identified 8 resources within the study area, consisting of historic roads, a utility line, and two prehistoric resources. All historic resources will be avoided through aerial installation, and all construction activities will remain outside recorded resource boundaries. ***No impacts to historic resources are anticipated.***

3.3 Water Resources

Water resources within the project area are regulated under the Clean Water Act (CWA; 33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq.) and the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Cal. Water Code §13000 et seq.) are further described below.

Clean Water Act – Section 404 (Waters of the United States)

Based on review of the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) and the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), Frontier has not identified jurisdictional waters of the United States within the project area. All mapped stream features are ephemeral drainages and are considered non-jurisdictional under current federal definitions. ***Given the current project design, Frontier does not anticipate impacts to Waters of the U.S. or that a CWA Section 404 permit will be required.***

Waters of the State – California Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act

The project area contains multiple ephemeral drainages that ultimately flow toward the Salton Sea (Figure 3). These features are considered waters of the state and fall under the jurisdiction of the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. The current project design routes fiber-optic lines across or adjacent to ephemeral features using aerial spans or HDD methods, thereby avoiding ground disturbance and direct impacts to bed or bank features. As designed, no work is planned to occur within or along the banks of a state water. ***Therefore, Frontier does not anticipate that a Wastewater Discharge Report (WDR) will be required for this project.***

3.4 Rivers and Harbors Act §408 / Levee Considerations

The alignment lies roughly 200 feet north of Riverside County Levee 13 and does not cross leveed areas regulated under Rivers and Harbors Act §408 (33 U.S.C. §408). ***No Section 408 permission is anticipated.***

3.5 Floodplain Permitting

Based on review of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps, portions of the eastern project area overlap mapped Flood Zone A (Figure 3), which represents areas subject to 100-year flood hazards where base flood elevations have not been determined. Based on current design, the project is expected to maintain a "no-rise" condition, meaning it will not cause any measurable increase in base flood elevations or alter flood conveyance capacity within designated floodplains. A floodplain development permit may be required.

3.6 Federal and State Land and Resource Agency Requirements

Segments of the project corridor overlap or occur adjacent to lands administered by the BLM and the BOR. If right-of-way or land-use authorization from these agencies is required to install fiber, Frontier is prepared to submit Standard Form 299 (SF-299) applications to obtain the necessary approvals. Any such authorization would establish a federal nexus and could trigger additional review under federal environmental laws.

In addition, portions of the alignment occur within the Salton Sea State Recreation Area, managed by the CDPR. CDPR may require Frontier to obtain a Right-of-Entry or Encroachment Permit to work in this area. Frontier is prepared to coordinate with the appropriate state and federal agencies as design progresses and jurisdictional needs are confirmed.

4. Permitting

Depending on final design, the project may require the following permits:

- Special Use Permit SF-299: Prompted by work occurring on federal land owned by BLM and BOR.
- State, County and/or Local Floodplain Permits: Prompted by work occurring within a floodplain.
- Right of Access Permit/Encroachment: Prompted by work occurring within CA State Parks jurisdiction.

5. Environmental Considerations and Best-Management Practices

To minimize the potential for impacts to sensitive biological resources and to support compliance with applicable state and federal wildlife protection laws, Frontier anticipates undertaking the following environmental considerations and best-management practices to support CPUC's CEQA review of a categorical exemption:

• *Pre-construction Surveys for Mojave Desert Tortoise* - Prior to ground-disturbing activities, Frontier intends to engage a qualified biologist to conduct clearance surveys in areas of potentially suitable desert scrub and alluvial habitat to ensure no active tortoise burrows or individuals occur within the work area. In addition, prior to ground-disturbing activities,

Frontier intends to require a qualified biologist to conduct clearance surveys in areas of potentially suitable desert scrub and alluvial habitat to ensure no active tortoise burrows or individuals occur within the work area.

• *Pre-construction Surveys for Burrowing Owl* - Where suitable burrows or disturbed shoulders occur, Frontier intends to engage a qualified biologist to conduct surveys consistent with CDFW's Burrowing Owl Mitigation Guidelines to avoid disturbance of occupied burrows.

• *Migratory-Bird Nest Avoidance* – Frontier plans to schedule vegetation clearing and surface disturbance outside the nesting season (February 1 – August 15), to the extent practicable. If work must occur during this period, Frontier will require a qualified biologist to conduct pre-construction nesting-bird surveys to ensure compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA; 16 U.S.C. §§703–712) and California Fish and Game Code §§3503, 3503.5, and 3513.

• *Work within Previously Disturbed Corridors* – Frontier plans to confine construction to existing road shoulders, right-of-way, and disturbed surfaces to reduce new ground disturbance and avoid encroachment into native vegetation or drainages.

• *Erosion and Sediment Control Best Management Practice (BMP)* – Frontier plans to use standard BMPs such as fiber rolls, silt fencing, and stabilized staging areas, where appropriate, to prevent sediment discharge to nearby drainages.

These commitments are consistent with standard CPUC environmental protection measures and can be refined during subsequent design and permitting to conform with CEQA and other applicable resource regulations.

6. Summary and Key Conclusions

Frontier's desktop review indicates that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption due to the nature and extent of necessary construction. Frontier's project design follows existing utility pathways where communications and/or other utility infrastructure has already been constructed and is currently present. Although the planned route is proximal to sensitive biological resources (potential habitat for the Mojave desert tortoise, burrowing owl, and migratory birds) and cultural resources, as well as ephemeral drainages subject to state water quality regulation, adequate methods exist to guard against impacts.

Frontier has not identified jurisdictional waters of the U.S. or floodplain encroachments, and neither Section 404 nor Section 408 permitting is anticipated based on current design. The project is expected to maintain a no-rise condition with respect to mapped floodplains.

This information, in conjunction with the environmental consideration discussed in section 6, supports CPUC's CEQA evaluation and determination of a categorical exemption under CEQA Guidelines §15301 or §15303.



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Aerial Routes

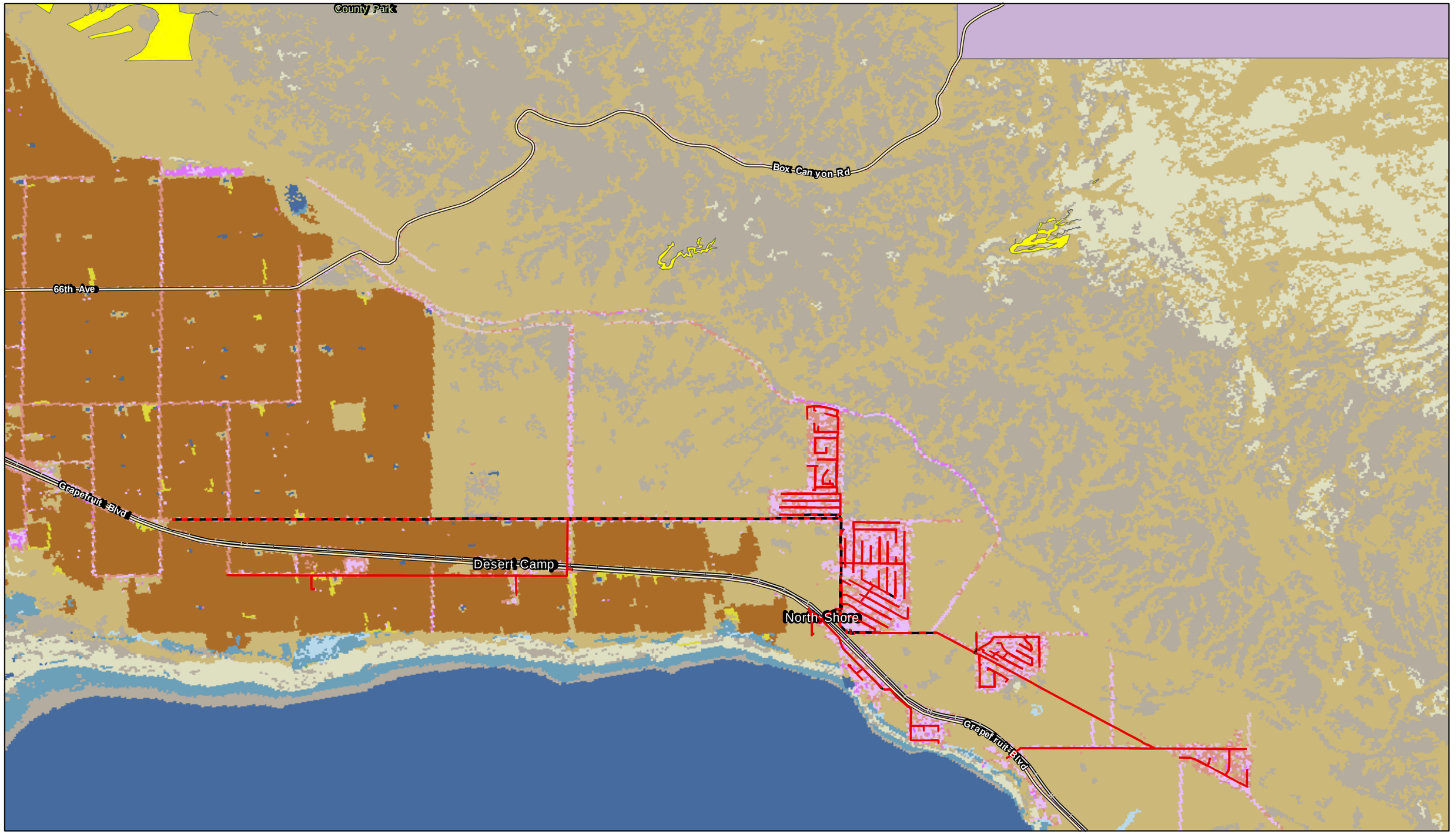
Buried Routes

Frontier Communications
Riverside County FFA
Riverside County, California
Olsson Project No: A023-00205
Project Location Map
Figure 1

NAD 1983 California Teale Albers

Basemap: World Topographic Map

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0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Aerial Routes
Buried Routes
Sensitive Natural Communities Species

Critical Habitat
Desert tortoise

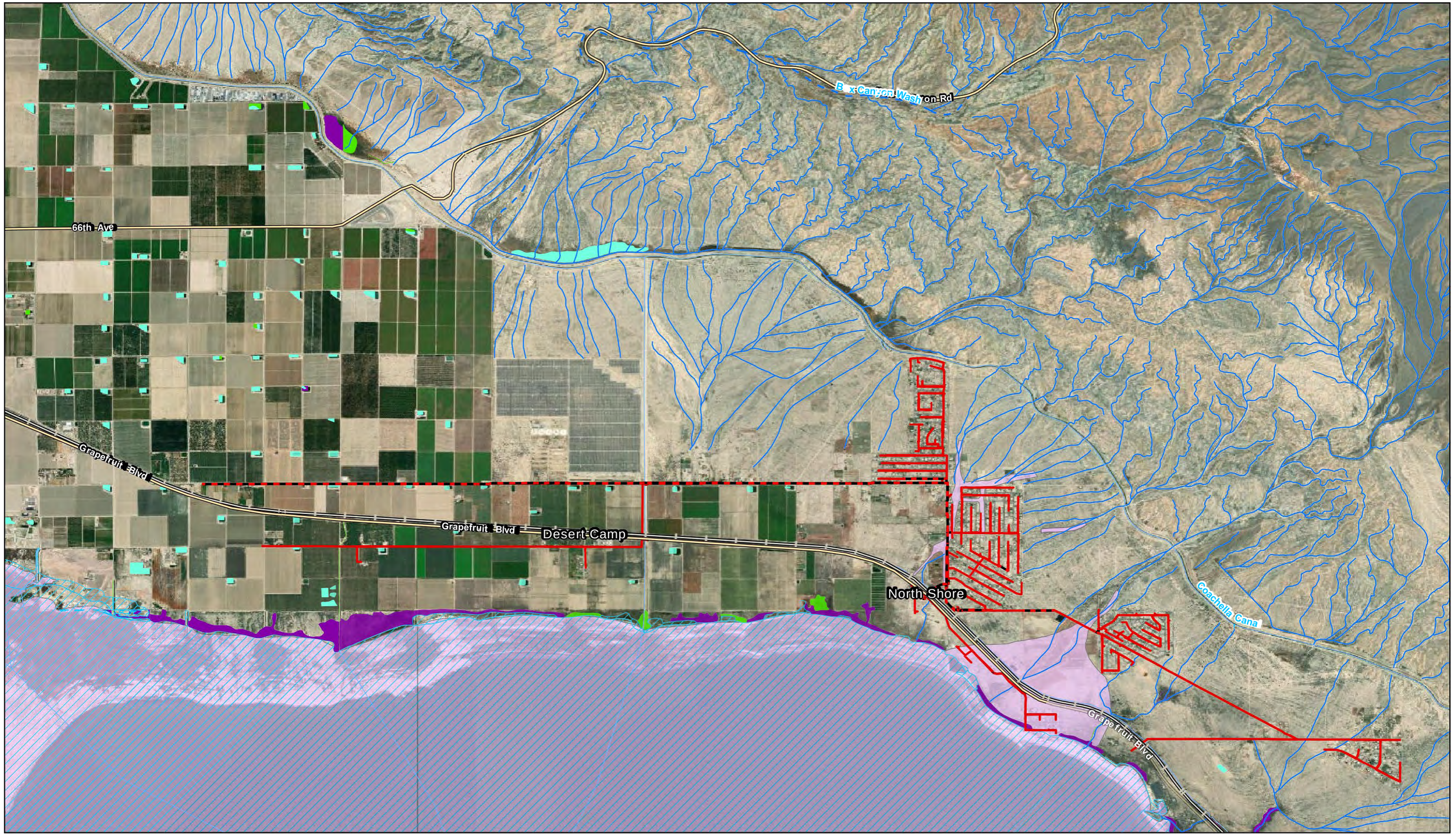
National Land Cover Database
Open Water
Developed, Open Space
Developed, Low Intensity
Developed, Medium Intensity
Developed, High Intensity
Barren Land
Deciduous Forest
Shrub/Scrub
Herbaceous
Hay/Pasture
Cultivated Crops
Woody Wetlands
Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands

Frontier Communications
Riverside County FFA
Riverside County, California
Olsson Project No: A023-00205
Critical Habitat Map
Figure 2

NAD 1983 California Teale Albers

Basemap: World Topographic Map

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0 0.5 1 2 Miles

olsson

Aerial Routes
Buried Routes

National Hydrography Dataset
Ephemeral Stream
Intermittent Stream
Other Flowlines

National Wetlands Inventory
Freshwater Emergent Wetland
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
Freshwater Pond
Lake

FEMA Flood Zone
A

Frontier Communications
Riverside County FFA
Riverside County, California
Olsson Project No: A023-00205
Water Resource Map
Figure 3

NAD 1983 California Teale Albers

Basemap: World Topographic Map

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Attachment A: State and Federally-Listed Wildlife and Plant Species with Potential to Occur in the Project Area (IPaC and CNDDB Sources)

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Carlsbad Fish And Wildlife Office
2177 Salk Avenue - Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008-7385
Phone: (760) 431-9440 Fax: (760) 431-5901

In Reply Refer To: 09/10/2025 15:34:12 UTC
Project Code: 2025-0147391
Project Name: Frontier Telecom Project_Riverside

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A biological assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a biological assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a biological assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found at the Fish and Wildlife Service's Endangered Species Consultation website at:

https://www.fws.gov/service/esa-section-7-consultation

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/what-we-do.

It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Carlsbad Fish And Wildlife Office
2177 Salk Avenue - Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008-7385
(760) 431-9440

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2025-0147391
Project Name: Frontier Telecom Project_Riverside
Project Type: New Constr - Below Ground
Project Description: Installation of fiber optic cables.
Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@33.5290138,-115.96627005201032,14z



Counties: Riverside County, California

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 6 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries[1], as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

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1. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

BIRDS

NAME	STATUS
Least Bell's Vireo *Vireo bellii pusillus* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5945	Endangered
Southwestern Willow Flycatcher *Empidonax traillii extimus* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6749	Endangered
Yuma Ridgway's Rail *Rallus obsoletus yumanensis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3505	Endangered

REPTILES

NAME	STATUS
Desert Tortoise *Gopherus agassizii* Population: Wherever found, except AZ south and east of Colorado R., and Mexico There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4481	Threatened

FISHES

NAME	STATUS
Desert Pupfish *Cyprinodon macularius* There is **final** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7003	Endangered

INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743	Proposed Threatened

CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

Element_Type	Scientific_Name	Common_Name	Element_Code	Federal_Status	State_Status	CDFW_Status	CA_Rare_Plant_Rank	Quad_C
Animals - Amphibians	Scaphiopus couchii	Couchs spadefoot	AAABF01020	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Ardea alba	great egret	ABNGA04040	None	None	-	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Ardea herodias	great blue heron	ABNGA04010	None	None	-	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Egretta thula	snowy egret	ABNGA06030	None	None	-	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Ixobrychus exilis	least bittern	ABNGA02010	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Charadrius montanus	mountain plover	ABNNB03100	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Falco mexicanus	prairie falcon	ABNKD06090	None	None	WL	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Antigone canadensis canadensis	lesser sandhill crane	ABNMK01011	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Antigone canadensis tabida	greater sandhill crane	ABNMK01014	None	Threatened	FP	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus	yellow-headed blackbird	ABPBXB3010	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Chlidonias niger	black tern	ABNNM10020	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Larus californicus	California gull	ABNNM03110	None	None	WL	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Rynchops niger	black skimmer	ABNNM14010	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Setophaga petechia	yellow warbler	ABPBX03010	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Melozone aberti	Aberts towhee	ABPBX74050	None	None	-	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Spizella breweri	Brewers sparrow	ABPBX94040	None	None	-	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Pelecanus erythrorhynchos	American white pelican	ABNFC01010	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Nannopterum auritum	double-crested cormorant	ABNFD01020	None	None	WL	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Polioptila melanura	black-tailed gnatcatcher	ABPBJ08030	None	None	WL	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus	California black rail	ABNME03041	None	Threatened	FP	-	3311558

Animals - Birds	Athene cunicularia	burrowing owl	ABNSB10010	None	Candidate Endangered	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Plegadis chihi	white-faced ibis	ABNGE02020	None	None	WL	-	3311558
Animals - Birds	Empidonax traillii extimus	southwestern willow flycatcher	ABPAE33043	Endangered	Endangered	-	-	3311558
Animals - Fish	Cyprinodon macularius	desert pupfish	AFCNB02060	Endangered	Endangered	-	-	3311558
Animals - Insects	Trichinorhipis knulli	Knulls metallic wood-boring beetle	IICOLX1100	None	None	-	-	3311558
Animals - Insects	Oliarces clara	cheeseweed owlfly (cheeseweed moth lacewing)	IINEU04010	None	None	-	-	3311558
Animals - Mammals	Ovis canadensis nelsoni	desert bighorn sheep	AMALE04013	None	None	FP	-	3311558
Animals - Mammals	Chaetodipus fallax pallidus	pallid San Diego pocket mouse	AMAFD05032	None	None	-	-	3311558
Animals - Mammals	Eumops perotis californicus	western mastiff bat	AMACD02011	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Mammals	Nyctinomops femorosaccus	pocketed free-tailed bat	AMACD04010	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Mammals	Nyctinomops macrotis	big free-tailed bat	AMACD04020	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Mammals	Taxidea taxus	American badger	AMAJF04010	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Mammals	Bassariscus astutus octavus	southern California ringtail	AMAJE01011	None	None	FP	-	3311558
Animals - Mammals	Antrozous pallidus	pallid bat	AMACC10010	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Mammals	Euderma maculatum	spotted bat	AMACC07010	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Mammals	Lasiurus cinereus	hoary bat	AMACC05032	None	None	-	-	3311558
Animals - Mammals	Lasiurus xanthinus	western yellow bat	AMACC05070	None	None	SSC	-	3311558
Animals - Mammals	Myotis yumanensis	Yuma myotis	AMACC01020	None	None	-	-	3311558

Animals - Reptiles	Gopherus agassizii	desert tortoise	ARAAF01012	Threatened	Endangered	-	-	3311558
Community - Terrestrial	Desert Fan Palm Oasis Woodland	Desert Fan Palm Oasis Woodland	CTT62300CA	None	None	-	-	3311558
Plants - Bryophytes	Jaffueliobryum wrightii	Wrights jaffueliobryum moss	NBMUS97020	None	None	-	2B.3	3311558
Plants - Vascular	Xylorhiza cognata	Mecca-aster	PDASTA1010	None	None	-	1B.2	3311558
Plants - Vascular	Johnstonella holoptera	winged cryptantha	PDBOR0A180	None	None	-	4.3	3311558
Plants - Vascular	Cladium californicum	California saw-grass	PMCYP04010	None	None	-	2B.2	3311558
Plants - Vascular	Ditaxis serrata var. californica	California ditaxis	PDEUP08050	None	None	-	3.2	3311558
Plants - Vascular	Astragalus bernardinus	San Bernardino milk-vetch	PDFAB0F190	None	None	-	1B.2	3311558
Plants - Vascular	Astragalus sabulonum	gravel milk-vetch	PDFAB0F7R0	None	None	-	2B.2	3311558
Plants - Vascular	Senna covesii	Coves cassia	PDFAB491X0	None	None	-	2B.2	3311558
Plants - Vascular	Salvia greatae	Orocopia sage	PDLAM1S0P0	None	None	-	1B.3	3311558
Plants - Vascular	Abronia villosa var. aurita	chaparral sand-verbena	PDNYC010P1	None	None	-	1B.1	3311558
Plants - Vascular	Saltugilia latimeri	Latimers woodland-gilia	PDPLM0H010	None	None	-	1B.2	3311558
Plants - Vascular	Lycium torreyi	Torreys box-thorn	PDSOL0G0K0	None	None	-	4.2	3311558

Attachment B: Cultural Resource Desktop Review

DESKTOP CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW

FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS, RIVERSIDE COUNTY FIBER-OPTIC PROJECT

Prepared for:

Frontier Communications

Riverside County, California

January 2026

Olsson Project No. A23-00205

olsson®

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction 1
2. Regulatory Framework 1
3. Methodology 2
4. Results 3
5. Discussion 4
6. References 6

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Survey of Archival and Database Materials 2
Table 2. Archaeological Surveys in the Study Area ..... Appendix A
Table 3. Archaeological Surveys in the AOI ..... Appendix A
Table 4. Archaeological Sites Within the Study Area ..... Appendix A
Table 5. Archaeological Sites in the AOI. ..... Appendix A

APPENDIX

Appendix A – Survey and Site Tables
Appendix B – Maps
Appendix C – Tribal Contacts

1. INTRODUCTION

Frontier Communications contracted Olsson to conduct desktop cultural resources review for the Riverside County Fiber-Optic Project (Project). The Project consists of fiber installation using a combination of existing infrastructure, supplemented by new underground conduit. New infrastructure will be installed within existing right-of-way and utility easements in areas where previous ground-disturbance activities have occurred.

The proposed route begins as two separate routes: one starting just east of the intersection of 70th Street and Hayes Street, and the other starting just east of the intersection of 71st Avenue and Wheeler Street. From these starting points, the routes extend eastward into the North Shore and Desert Beach communities (Appendix B - Figure 1). Portions of the project corridor overlap with the Salton Sea State Recreation Area, owned by BOR and managed by the California Department of Parks and Recreation, as well as land administered by the BLM; Palm Springs/South Coast Field Office.

The objective of this desktop cultural resources review is to identify previously recorded archaeological sites, other cultural resources, and any relevant archaeological investigations within the Project area for planning and design considerations.

2. STUDY AREA

The Project area includes approximately 28 miles of fiber installation and is located in Township 7 South Range 10 East, Sections 19-22, 24-27, 28 -30, 34-35 and Township 7 South Range 9 East Section 25 -26. The Study Area consists of a 100-foot buffer around the proposed fiber installation line based on the above location and distance description which includes installation depths ranging from 18 to 48 inches with portions installed using aerial lines. A 1-mile Area of Interest (AOI) was used to collect background information on cultural resources near the project corridor. The AOI provides context for planning and risk assessment in the event design adjustments are needed.

According to U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic data, the Study Area is situated on moderately steep soils on alluvial fans and valley fill along intermittent washes originating in the Orocopia Mountains.

3. REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

This section outlines cultural resources regulatory compliance considerations, and related permits and approvals that may be required for the development of the Project.

California Environmental Quality Act

In California, archeological oversight is guided by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Cal. Code § 10000 et. seq.), which requires state agencies to determine if the project will have a significant effect on unique archaeological resources. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) might apply to the Project if there is no federal nexus, but state agency is involved with the project. In such cases, the project sponsor will need to coordinate with the funding agency and the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) to determine if field investigations are needed.

If human remains are encountered on the Project, the first step in complying with state regulations is to contact the Riverside County Sheriff's Office. If the human remains are discovered, they are subject to protection under the California burial laws (Calif. Public Resources Code, Chapter 1.7, Sec. 5097.98, Calif. Health and Safety Code, Sec 7050.5) and the county coroner has made a determination the OHP, and relevant Tribes must be contacted.

4. METHODOLOGY

Olsson conducted a records search to obtain cultural resource data from the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) and OHP including the locations of known cultural sites and information on previously conducted cultural resource surveys. Additionally, Olsson reviewed older maps (including general land office [GLO] plat maps, aerials, and topographic maps) and other publicly available resources that may provide information on the location of previously recorded archaeological sites and the potential for newly identified sites. Table 1 includes the archival and database sources used for this review. Olsson's geographic information systems (GIS) technical staff then digitized the CHRIS cultural site locations to create resource maps and identify potential archaeological surveys areas and sites in the AOI and Study Area.

Table 1. Survey of Archival and Database Materials.

Document/Database	Source	Year
Find a Grave - Cemeteries in Riverside County	Find a Grave website (Find a Grave, 2025)	nil
Google Earth	Google Earth website (Google Earth, 2025)	2025
California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS)	California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP)	nil
Bureau of Land Management GLO Plat Maps	Bureau of Land Management (BLM, 2025)	1836, 1884, 1914

Document/Database	Source	Year
National Park Service (NPS) National Register of Historic Places	NPS National Register of Historic Places Mapper (NPS, 2025)	nil
National Park Service (NPS) National Scenic and Historic Trails	NPS National Scenic and Historic Trails Website (NPS, 2025)	nil
United State Geological Survey Topographic Maps	USGS topoView (USG, 2025)	1904, 1940, 1941, 1955,1958, 1959, 1984
Historic Aerial Photographs	Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR): Historic Aerials (NETROnline, 2025)	1953, 1959, 1965, 1972, 1977,1984
Native American Heritage Commission	California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC, 2025)	2025

5. RESULTS

CHRIS and OHP file search results provided information on previous cultural resource studies and recorded cultural resources within the AOI and Study Area. Because of concerns about vandalism and trespassing, the exact locations of archaeological resources are prohibited from public disclosure (43 CFR § 7.18), and general information is summarized below.

Based on the results of the file search, 16 archaeological surveys have been conducted within the AOI (Appendix A – Table 2, Appendix B). These surveys were conducted principally in response to transportation and infrastructure projects. Ten surveys intersect the Study Area (Appendix A -Table 3, Appendix B).

Thirty-one archaeological sites are recorded within the AOI (Appendix -Table 5, Appendix B). A review of site locations indicates that eight of these sites intersect the roadway. Of the sites in the Study Area, 2 are archaeological sites and 6 are historic sites. (Appendix A - Table 4). These sites consist of two prehistoric sites, five road segments and a utility segment. None of the sites have been formally evaluated for eligibility to the NRHP.

A review of historic maps dating from 1836 to 1996 was conducted to identify potential archaeological remains of former farmsteads or other sites in the AOI (USGS, 2025). These areas may lack standing buildings but could contain buried archaeological features, such as foundations, wells, cellars, and other remains. Two such properties were identified: (1) a road segment crosses the Study Area through Section 20-21, 27-28 and 35 of Township 7 South, Range 10 West of the 1836 GLO and (2) a road segment named Brown’s Road crosses the Study Area through Section 21-21, 26-28, and 35 of Township 7 South, Range 10 West of the 1884 GLO) (Appendix B).

Available records indicate that there are 102 properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) within Riverside County (NPS, 2025a); however, none are located within the AOI or Study Area. The National Park Service also maintains records of historic trails, and no designated trails are reported within the AOI (NPS, 2025b).

Cemetery information was compiled from USGS topographic quadrangles (USGS, 2025), Find a Grave (Find a Grave, 2025), and Google Earth aerial imagery (Google Earth, 2025). These sources document 27 cemeteries in Riverside County, but none occur within the AOI.

Review of 2025 Google Earth imagery shows that the AOI and Study Area primarily consists of transportation corridors, scattered residential development, and agricultural lands along the Salton Sea (Google Earth, 2025).

A request was submitted to the State of California Native American Heritage to determine which tribes have historic and cultural interest in Riverside County, California (NAHC, 2025). These tribes include the following:

- Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
- Cahuilla Band of Indians
- Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeno Indians
- Morongo Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians
- Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation, California & Arizona
- Ramona Band of Cahuilla
- Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
- Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
- Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians of California

Coordination with the tribes listed above may help identify the presence of Traditional Cultural Properties or other areas of tribal interest within or adjacent to the Study Area (Appendix C).

6. DISCUSSION

Based on a review of publicly available sources and information from the CHRIS and OHP, thirty-one unevaluated sites and a segment of a road found on the 1836 and 1884 General Land office maps, are located within the AOI. Eight of those sites (CA-RIV-006778, 006779, 010808, 010815,

010816, 010834, 010835, 010836) intersect the fiber route. These sites will be avoided by installing fiber aerially on existing infrastructure, or by placing new poles outside of site boundaries. In addition, all ground disturbing activities will be designed to avoid disturbance within the boundaries of identified cultural resources and will be avoided by aerial installation utilizing existing infrastructure, or new infrastructure constructed outside of the site boundaries. Additionally, ground disturbance within the boundaries of all resources will be avoided during construction (Appendix A – Table 4).

Although portions of the Study Area have not undergone formal archaeological or historical field investigation, the Project is confined to previously disturbed transportation and utility corridors where repeated ground disturbance has already occurred. Based on the desktop review, previously recorded resources intersecting the roadway will be avoided through adherence to existing right-of-way limits and use of low-impact installation methods where appropriate. If future design refinements indicate that work may extend outside disturbed areas or in proximity to sensitive locations, focused field verification may be warranted. Otherwise, no additional survey is recommended at this time; however, standard inadvertent-discovery procedures will be implemented during construction.

This desktop cultural resources review is intended for informational and planning purposes only. If the Project involves a federal nexus, such as funding or permitting, consultation with the OHP and the associated federal agency will likely be required. This consultation process would determine whether field investigations are necessary under applicable regulations. If there is no federal nexus, no additional investigations are recommended at this time. However, if human burials are inadvertently discovered during construction, the first notification should be to the coroner, consistent with California Health and Safety Code §7050.5. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the NAHC will be notified, and a Most Likely Descendant will be designated pursuant to PRC §5097.98.

7. REFERENCES

Find a Grave. 2025. Cemeteries in Riverside County, California. https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery (Accessed November 18, 2025).

Google Earth, 2025, Map of Riverside Study Area]. https://earth.google.com/web/@33.52989093,-115.95452727,-62.23424137a,16357.56738514d,35y,357.98999317h,0t,0r/data=CgRCAggBOgMKATBCAggASg0IARAA?utm_source=earth7&utm_campaign=vine&hl=en&authuser=0 (Accessed November 18, 2025).

OHP (California Office of Historic Preservation). 2025. California Historical Resources Information System. South Coastal Information Center. San Diego State University. San Diego.

NAHC (California Native American Heritage Commission). 2025.*Tribal Consultation under CEQA, Fiber Optic Installation Project, Riverside County*. Sacramento.

NETROnline (Nationwide Environmental Title Research Online). 2025. Historic Aerials. https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer. (Accessed November 19, 2025)

NPS (National Park Service). 2025a. National Register of Historic Places Mapper. https://www.nps.gov/maps/full.html?mapId=7ad17cc9-b808-4ff8-a2f9-a99909164466 (Accessed November 19, 2025).

NPS, (National Park Service). 2025b. National Scenic and National Historic Trails Webmap. https://nps.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d89951079a374f28ab4a3b9fc41025dd (Accessed November 19, 2025).

BLM (Bureau of Land Management). 2025.GLO Plat Maps https://glorecords.blm.gov/search/default.aspx (Accessed November 19, 2025).

USGS (United State Geological Survey). 2025. topoView. https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/viewer/#13/41.8377/-90.2102 (Accessed November 19, 2025).

APPENDIX A
SURVEY AND SITE TABLES

Table 2. Archaeological Surveys in the Study Area.

Survey ID	Author	Date	Title
RI-01396	Swenson, Jame	1982	An archaeological/ historical/ paleontological evaluation of the east 1/2 of section 27, T7S, R10 E, sbbm, Riverside County, California
RI-02198	Taylor, Thomas T.	1987	Archaeological survey report and national register of historic places eligibility assessment - Imperial Irrigation District Coachella-midway-east mesa 230 KV transmission line project, Riverside and Imperial counties, California
RI-03706	Brock, James	1993	A cultural resources assessment of lots 21 through 25 in tract no. 2538, north shore of the Salton Sea, county of riverside, California
RI-05711	Thal, Erika	2005	Letter Report: Proposed Cellular Tower Project(s) in Riverside County, California, Site Name/Number: CA-5389A/ Chelsea, & CA-7268/ North Shore
RI-06930	Brock, James	2006	Phase 1 Cultural Resource Assessment for 40 Single Family House Lots, Salton Sea Area of Riverside and Imperial Counties, California.
RI-08670	Mason, Rogaer D. and Cary D. Cotterman	2010	Phase I Archaeological Survey Report for the North Shore Elementary School Project
RI-10405	Smith, David M.	2018	Archaeological Monitoring Results, Sunpin Solar Project, Mecca, Riverside County, California
RI-10741	Travers, Aniela	2019	Cultural Resource records Search and Site Visit Results for AT&T Mobility, LLC Candidate CSL00231 (Salton Sea Estates), Vander Veer Road and Corvina, Mecca, Riverside County, California (EBI Project # 6119000587)
RI-10817	Bullard, Logan	2019	historic properties inventory and documentation for the up-sig1551.ca.01 communications tower Riverside County, California T7S, R9E, Section 25
RI-11288	Garrison, Andrew J. and Brian R. Smith	2022	A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for the 99100 West Access Road Project, PPT200028, Riverside County, California

Table 3. Archaeological Surveys in the AOI.

Survey ID	Author	Date	Title
RI-03319	Ferraro, David	1991	An archaeological survey of Pacific telephone's Salton Sea cellular site, parcel apn-725-160-005
RI-03613	Hogan, Michael	1993	Cultural resources assessment, archaeological survey for upgrading Imperial Irrigation District lattice towers along the KN/Ks transmission line between the Coachella valley substation and the Midway substation, Riverside and Imperial counties
RI-03754	Keller, Jean	1994	A phase I archaeological assessment of tentative parcel map 27265
RI-04430	Jones and Stokes Associates, Inc.	2000	Cultural resources inventory report for Williams communications, inc. Fiber optic cable system installation project, riverside, ca to the CA/AZ border, Riverside, San Bernardino, & Imperial Counties, CA, Vol I-III
RI-04714	Bureau of Land Management	1980	Letter report: Cultural resource survey of sites for temperature gradient holes for Phillips petroleum
RI-05344	White, Laurie	2001	Letter report: Records search results for sprint pcs facility rv54xc502d (Salton Sea tower), north shore, Riverside County, CA
RI-05345	White, Laurie	2001	Letter report: Cultural resource assessment for Sprint pcs facility rv54xc502d (Salton Sea tower), north shore, Riverside County, CA
RI-06061*	Schaefer, Jerry and Sinead Nighabhlain	2003	A history and evaluation of the Coachella canal, riverside and Imperial counties, California
RI-06071	Sander, Jay K., Roger D. Mason, Evelyn N. Chandler and Cary D. Cotterman	2003	final cultural resources inventory for the Coachella valley management plan, Riverside County, CA.
RI-06700	Mirro, Vanessa	2006	Phase i archaeological assessment of four new reservoirs in Imperial and Riverside Counties, California

Survey ID	Author	Date	Title
RI-06972	Kind Aaron S.	2006	Cultural Resources Inventory for Proposed OHV Restoration Routes in the Western, Orocopia Mountains and Mecca Hills Wilderness-2006
RI-06999	Schaefer, Jerry and Sinead Ni Ghabhlain and Mark Becker	2003	A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory, and Evaluation for the Coachella Canal, Lining Project: Prehistoric and Historic, Sites Along the Northeastern Shore of, Ancient Lake Chauilla, Imperial and Riverside Counties, California.
RI-07349	Apple, McCorkle Rebecca and Christopher Shaver	2005	Chocoloate Moutain Aerial Gunnery Range: Cultural Resources Survey of 12 Targets and Monitoring of 14 Archaeological Sites
RI-08855	Bonner, Wayne H. and Sarah Williams	2011	Cultural Resources Assessment: metroPCS California, LLC Candidate LA5680A (AT&T Bautista 48239), Mecca, Riverside County, California
RI-10074	Roland, Jennifer	2016	Phase I investigation for the Verizon Wireless Torres Tower Installation Project, Mecca, Riverside County, California
RI-10108	Brunzell, David	2016	Phase 1 cultural resources assessment Torres project (PP25700) assessor parcel number 729-070-016, -019 unincorporated Riverside County, California

*non-confidential survey in the project area

Table 4. Archaeological Sites Within the Study Area

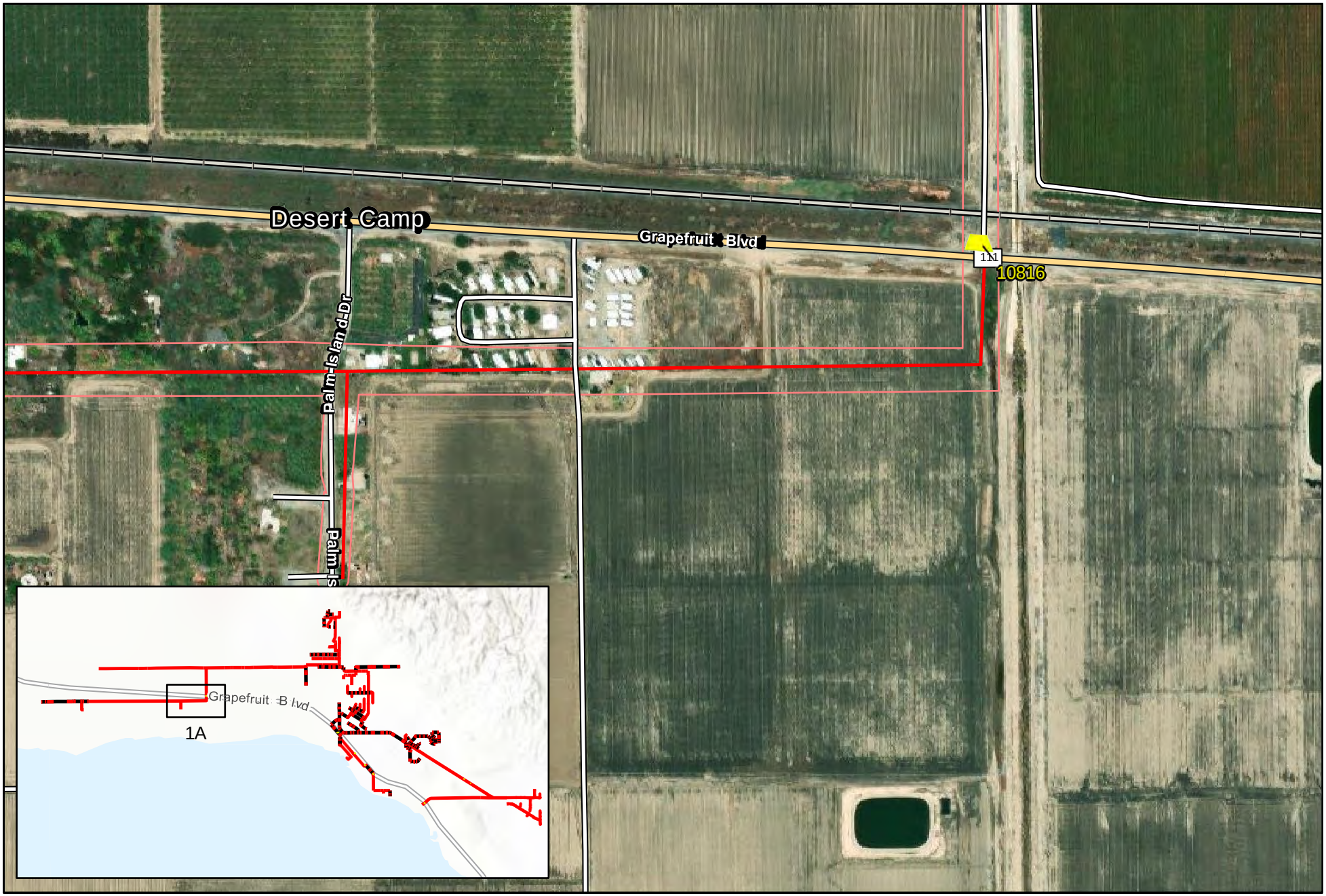
Primary Number	Trinomial Number	Site Avoidance	Site Type
P-33-020887	CA-RIV-010808	Yes – Existing Aerial Line	Historic Road
P-33-020891	CA-RIV-010815	Yes – Existing Aerial Line	Transmission Line
P-33-020892	CA-RIV-010816	Yes – Existing Aerial Line	Historic Road
P-33-020909	CA-RIV-010834	Yes – Existing Aerial Line	Historic Road
P-33-020910	CA-RIV-010835	Yes – Existing Aerial Line	Historic Road
P-33-020911	CA-RIV-010836	Yes – Existing Aerial Line	Historic Road
P-33-011372	CA-RIV-006778	Yes – Existing Aerial Line	Prehistoric Site
P-33-011373	CA-RIV-006779	Yes – Existing Aerial Line	Prehistoric Site

Table 5. Archaeological Sites Within the AOI

Primary Number	Trinomial Number	Confidential/Nonconfidential
P-33-003150	CA-RIV-003150	Confidential
P-33-003210	CA-RIV-003210	Confidential
P-33-003211	CA-RIV-003211	Confidential
P-33-003212	CA-RIV-003212	Confidential
P-33-003213	CA-RIV-003213	Confidential
P-33-003214	CA-RIV-003214	Confidential
P-33-004312	CA-RIV-004312	Confidential
P-33-004483	CA-RIV-004483	Confidential
P-33-005191	CA-RIV-005191	Confidential
P-33-006045	CA-RIV-005705	Nonconfidential
P-33-006061	CA-RIV-005721	Nonconfidential
P-33-011365	CA-RIV-006771	Confidential
P-33-011367	CA-RIV-006773	Confidential
P-33-011368	CA-RIV-006774	Confidential
P-33-011369	CA-RIV-006775	Confidential
N/A	CA-RIV-006776	Confidential
P-33-011371	CA-RIV-006777	Confidential
P-33-011372	CA-RIV-006778	Confidential
P-33-011375	CA-RIV-006781	Confidential
P-33-017857	CA-RIV-009243	Confidential

Primary Number	Trinomial Number	Confidential/Nonconfidential
N/A	CA-RIV-010809	Confidential
N/A	CA-RIV-010810	Confidential
P-33-020887	CA-RIV-010811	Confidential
P-33-020890	CA-RIV-010814	Confidential
P-33-020893	CA-RIV-010817	Confidential
N/A	CA-RIV-010818	
N/A	CA-RIV-010819	
P-33-020896	CA-RIV-010820	Confidential
P-33-020912	CA-RIV-010837	Confidential
P-33-020913	CA-RIV-010838	Confidential
P-33-020914	CA-RIV-010839	Confidential
P-33-020897	CA-RIV-070821	Confidential
P-33-012393	N/A	Confidential
P-33-017858	N/A	Confidential
P-33-023991	N/A	Confidential
P-33-029136	N/A	Confidential

APPENDIX B
MAPS



250 500
25 ft
1:5,000

Aerial Routes
Buried Routes
Study Area
Cultural Resource Site

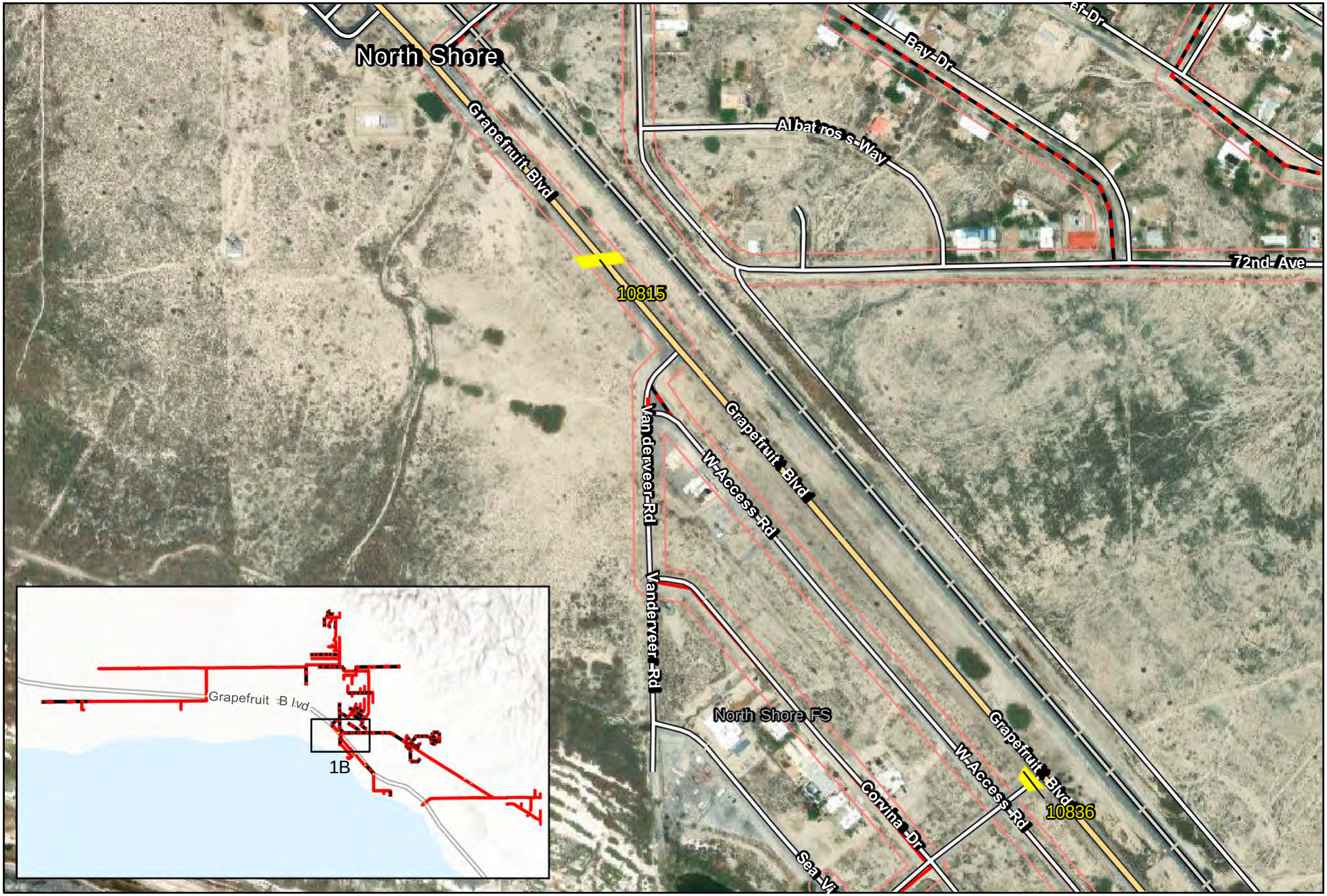
Frontier Communications
Cultural Resource Sites

Project # 023-00205A
Riverside, CA
Figure 1A

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NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 Feet

Basemap: Google Earth Imagery



250 500 ft

1:5,000

Aerial Routes

Buried Routes

Study Area

Cultural Resource Site

Frontier Communications

Cultural Resource Sites

Project # 023-00205A
Riverside, CA
Figure 1B

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NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 Feet

Basemap: Google Earth Imagery



250 500 ft

1:5,000

Aerial Routes

Buried Routes

Study Area

Cultural Resource Site

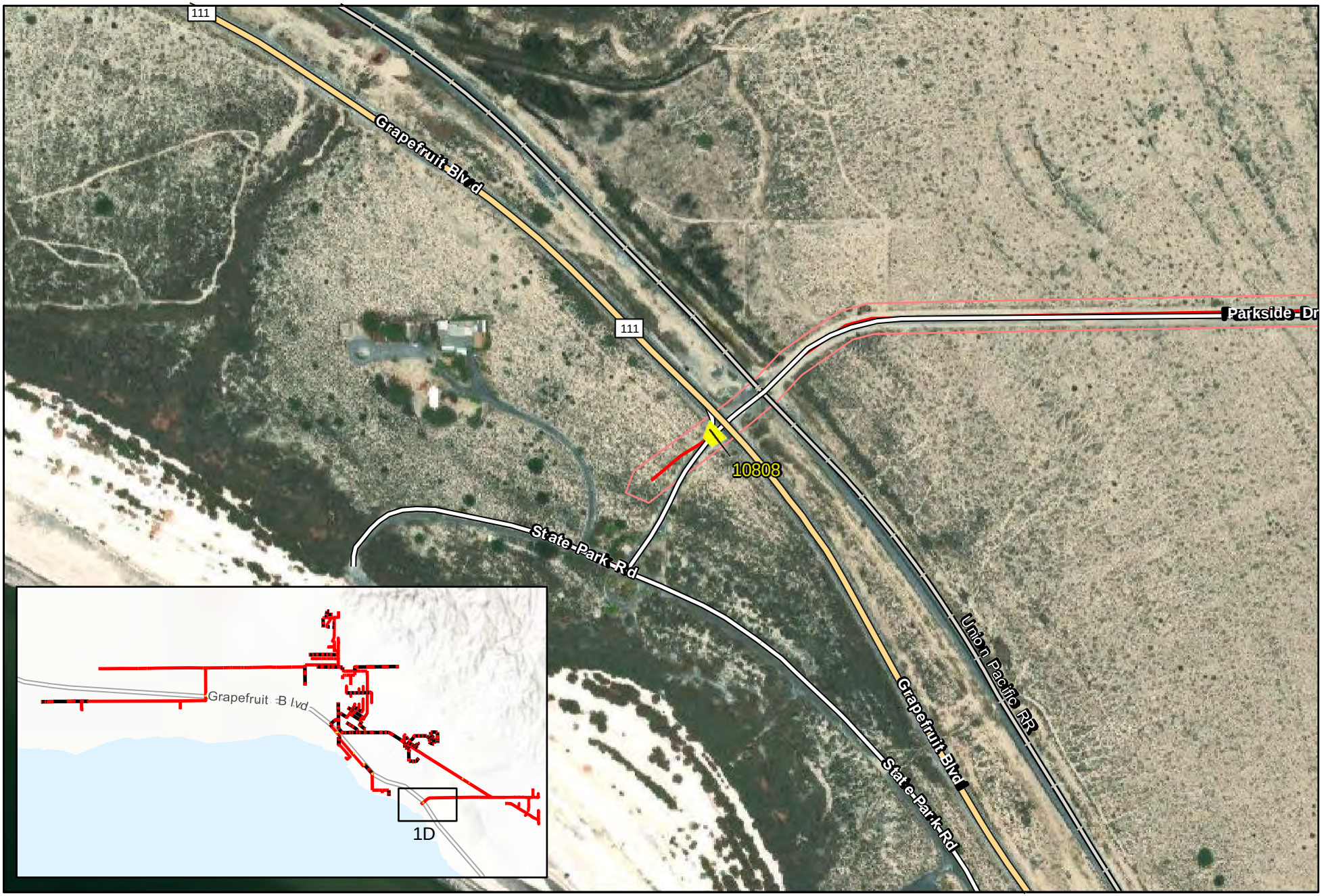
Frontier Communications
Cultural Resource Sites

Project # 023-00205A
Riverside, CA
Figure 1C

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NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 Feet

Basemap: Google Earth Imagery



250 500
25 ft
1:5,000

Aerial Routes
Buried Routes
Study Area
Cultural Resource Site

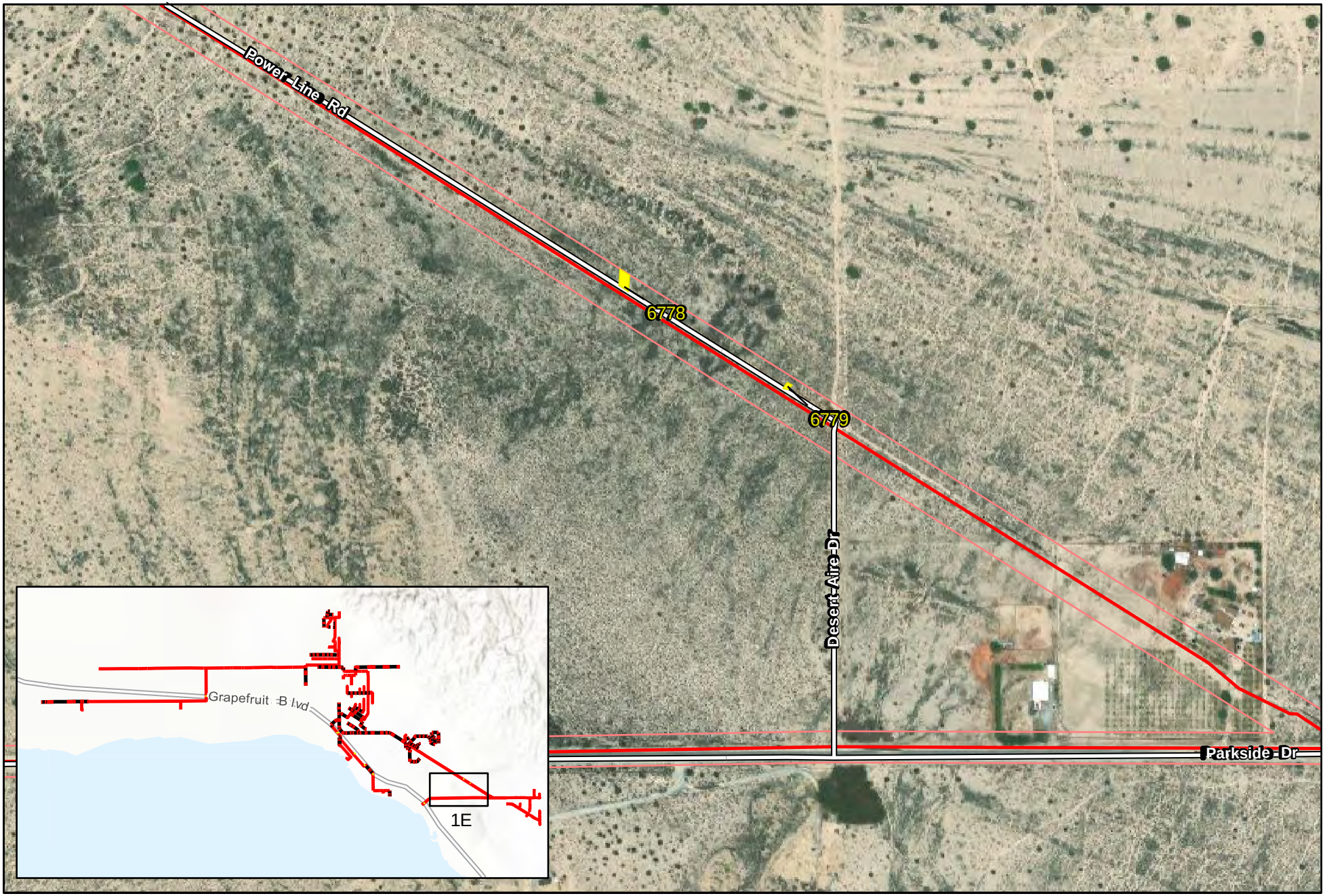
Frontier Communications
Cultural Resource Sites

Project # 023-00205A
Riverside, CA
Figure 1D

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NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 Feet

Basemap: Google Earth Imagery



250 500 ft

1:5,000

Aerial Routes

Buried Routes

Study Area

Cultural Resource Site

Frontier Communications
Cultural Resource Sites
Project # 023-00205A

Riverside, CA
Figure 1E

F:\2023\00001-00500\023-00205-A\40-Design\GIS\2-APRX\Riverside_GeoRef\Riverside_GeoRef.aprx PUBLISHED BY: trappleye DATE: January 05, 2026

NAD 1983 StatePlane Nebraska FIPS 2600 Feet

Basemap: Google Earth Imagery

APPENDIX C
TRIBAL CONTACTS

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki, Nomlaki

SECRETARY
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

COMMISSIONER
Bennae Calac
Pauma-Yuima Band of Luiseño Indians

COMMISSIONER
Vacant

COMMISSIONER
Vacant

ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Michelle Carr

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

September 16, 2025

Tamara Burke
Olsson

Via Email to: tburke@olsson.com

Re: Tribal Consultation Under CEQA, Fiber Optic Installation Project, Riverside County

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to your request, attached is a consultation list of tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the above-listed project. Additionally, a search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed based on the information submitted for the above referenced project. The results were negative. Be aware that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the SLF, nor are they required to do so. As such, an SLF search is not a substitute for consultation with all tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with a project's geographic area. Please contact all of the listed tribes as they may have information about sacred sites within the project area that is not listed with the NAHC.

Additionally, the NAHC recommends that agencies include with their notification letters, information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed on the area of potential effect (APE), such as:

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

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

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

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

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

3. The result of the Sacred Lands File check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission.

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

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

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

This information will aid tribes in determining whether to request formal consultation. If consultation is requested, having the information beforehand will help to facilitate the process.

If you receive notification of a change of address or phone number from a tribe, please inform the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our consultation list remains current.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Andrew Green

Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
9/16/2025

Tribe Name	Fed (F) Non-Fed (N)	Contact Person	Contact Address	Phone #	Fax #	Email Address	Cultural Affiliation	Counties	Last Updated
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Lacy Padilla, Director of Historic Preservation/THPO	5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA, 92264	(760) 333-5222	(760) 699-6919	ACBCI-THPO@aguacaliente.net	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	1/11/2024
Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Tribal Operations,	84-001 Avenue 54 Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 398-4722		info@augustinetribe-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	4/18/2024
Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Doug Welmas, Chairperson	84-245 Indio Springs Parkway Indio, CA, 92203	(760) 342-2593	(760) 347-7880	jstapp@cabazonindians-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	Erica Schenk, Chairperson	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 590-0942	(951) 763-2808	chair@cahuilla-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	2/1/2024
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	Anthony Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-5549		anthonymad2002@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	6/28/2023
Cahuilla Band of Indians	F	BobbyRay Esparza, Cultural Director	52701 CA Highway 371 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-5549		besparza@cahuilla-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	6/28/2023
Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians	F	Ray Chapparosa, Chairperson	P.O. Box 189 Warner Springs, CA, 92086-0189	(760) 782-0711	(760) 782-0712		Cahuilla Cupeno	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Bernadette Ann Brierty, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 663-2842		abrierty@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	8/25/2025
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Lena Broderick, Executive Assistant to Tribal Chairman	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5110		lbroderick@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	8/25/2025
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	F	Charles Martin, MBMI Chairman	12700 Pumarra Road Banning, CA, 92220	(951) 755-5110		chairman@morongo-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Serrano	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	8/25/2025
Quechan Indian Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation	F	Jonathan Koteen, President, Quechan Tribal Council	P.O.Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366-1899	(760) 919-3600		executivesecretary@quechantribe.com	Quechan	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	6/4/2025
Quechan Indian Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation	F	Jill McCormick, Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 1899 Yuma, AZ, 85366-1899	(928) 261-0254		historicpreservation@quechantribe.com	Quechan	Imperial,Kern,Los Angeles,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	1/31/2025
Ramona Band of Cahuilla	F	Joseph Hamilton, Chairperson	P.O. Box 391670 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 763-4105	(951) 763-4325	admin@ramona-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	

Native American Heritage Commission
Native American Contact List
Riverside County
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Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Steven Estrada, Tribal Chairman	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	sestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	4/8/2024
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Vanessa Minott, Tribal Administrator	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	vminott@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	4/8/2024
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	F	Mercedes Estrada, Cultural Director	P.O. Box 391820 Anza, CA, 92539	(951) 659-2700	(951) 659-2228	mestrada@santarosa-nsn.gov	Cahuilla	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	5/21/2025
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Joseph Ontiveros, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581	(951) 663-5279	(951) 654-4198	jontiveros@soboba-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Luiseno	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	7/14/2023
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	F	Jessica Valdez, Cultural Resource Specialist	P.O. Box 487 San Jacinto, CA, 92581	(951) 663-6261	(951) 654-4198	jvaldez@soboba-nsn.gov	Cahuilla Luiseno	Imperial,Los Angeles,Orange,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	7/14/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Abraham Becerra, Cultural Coordinator	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300		abecerra@tmdci.org	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Alesia Reed, Cultural Committee Chairwoman	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300		lisareed990@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Thomas Tortez, Chairperson	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300	(760) 397-8146	thomas.tortez@tmdci.org	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Gary Resvaloso, TM MLD	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 777-0365		grestmtm@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	10/30/2023
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	F	Mary Belardo, Cultural Committee Vice Chair	P.O. Box 1160 Thermal, CA, 92274	(760) 397-0300		belardom@gmail.com	Cahuilla	Imperial,Riverside,San Bernardino,San Diego	10/30/2023
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	F	Sarah O'Brien, Tribal Archivist	46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 863-2460		sobrien@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov	Chemehuevi	Imperial,Inyo,Riverside,San Bernardino	11/15/2023
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	F	Christopher Nicosia, Cultural Resources Manager/THPO Manager	46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 863-3972		christopher.nicosia@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov	Chemehuevi	Imperial,Inyo,Riverside,San Bernardino	11/15/2023
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians	F	Nicolas Garza, Cultural Resources Specialist	46-200 Harrison Place Coachella, CA, 92236	(760) 863-2486		nicolas.garza@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov	Chemehuevi	Imperial,Inyo,Riverside,San Bernardino	11/15/2023

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

This list is only applicable for consultation with Native American tribes under Public Resources Code Sections 21080.3.1 for the proposed Fiber Optic Installation Project, Riverside County.

Record: PROJ-2025-005168
Report Type: AB52 GIS
Counties: Riverside
NAHC Group: All

DESKTOP CULTURAL RESOURCES REVIEW FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS, RIVERSIDE COUNTY FIBER-OPTIC PROJECT

January 2026

Olsson Project No. A23-00205