

QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE

Fort Yuma Indian Reservation

Economic Development Administration
P. O. Box 1899
YUMA, ARIZONA 85366-1899
Phone (760) 572-5270
FAX (760) 572-0519

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR A BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT NEW WATER TREATMENT PLANT CONSTRUCTION PH17-V19 / WA#19-23

Issue Date: March 7, 2024
Pre-Submittal Meeting: March 15, 2024 @ 10:00 am Arizona Time
Requests for Information Due Date: March 22, 2024 @ 4:00 pm Arizona Time
Proposal Due Date, Time, and Location: March 29, 2024 @ 4:00 pm Arizona Time, EDA Office

The Quechan Indian Tribe (Tribe), through the Quechan Tribal Council and the Economic Development Administration (EDA), seeks proposals from qualified and experienced firms to provide consultant services for completing a Biological Assessment Technical Memorandum for the areas identified under this project as the Area of Potential Effect (APE). The APE is associated with the construction of a new Water Treatment Plant (WTP). The APE, as illustrated in Appendix A, will be adjacent to an abandoned canal named the Old Yuma Main Canal and existing agricultural land that will also include construction staging areas and trenching areas. The new WTP will treat groundwater from existing drinking water wells located on the project site. The new WTP will consist of an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) building, filter vessels, backwash tank, drying beds, gravel access roads, and a perimeter chain link fence.

The Indian Health Service (IHS), a Federal agency of the United States Public Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services, is the funding agency along with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development. The EPA Safe Drinking Water Act funding portion is supporting this Request for Proposals (RFP) solicitation of the Tribe. IHS will provide the Tribe with technical assistance in reviewing submitted proposals and making the final award recommendation based on the scoring and selection criteria presented in this RFP.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The WTP is planned to treat two wells identified as North Picacho Well (Well #2) and West Picacho Well (Well #3). Well #3, the newest well, was constructed in June 2019. Well #2 was also rehabilitated in 2019. Well #2 and Well #3 produce approximately 1200 GPM (gallons per minute) each.

In January 2021, a pilot study was finalized by an engineering consultant firm named Carollo Engineers Inc.

(Carollo). They evaluated alternatives for water treatment of the two existing wells. The pilot study resulted in the funding of design and construction for the WTP. The design of the WTP has been finalized with proposed construction to be initiated in the Spring of 2024.

The Biological Assessment Technical Memorandum shall be used for two current IHS projects (PH15-U67 and PH17-V19). In 2017, the Quechan Fish and Game Department conducted a biological study of the Picacho Wells site area and it was determined at that time that there were no threatened or endangered species that would be impacted by the construction planned for the WTP site. Since that determination was made seven years ago in 2017, it has been decided that an updated Biological Assessment of the planned construction site for the WTP is needed once again. The project construction phase is dependent on a new Biological Assessment as it may possibly impact the overall schedule or require mitigation measures such as monitoring for migratory birds if any are present.

See Appendix B for the location of the WTP site and the site plan as designed by Carollo.

The primary environmental consideration within the APE of the project is the abandoned Old Yuma Main Canal that runs parallel to the northern boundary of the planned WTP site. Carollo evaluated the area for a 100-year floodplain and has determined that the site is located within a Zone X area on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mapping as illustrated on FEMA floodplain panel maps 06025C1925C. The construction of the project is planned to be outside the Old Yuma Main Canal area. See Appendix C for excerpts from Carollo's Drainage Study that depicts the FEMA FIRM panel.

In addition to the evaluation of any existing floodplains, endangered species and migratory birds was also reviewed for the project site. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) website and mapping indicates that there may be endangered species and migratory birds within and around the project area. The consultant will be required to review the most up to date data from the USFWS website and mapping.

In order to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental laws for sanitation construction projects on the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation, the Tribe is requesting proposals from qualified firms to complete a Biological Assessment Technical Memorandum for the APE. Qualified firms will be required to submit a proposal to the Tribe for evaluation by a three-member board. All submitted proposals will be reviewed and ranked from the Proposal Scoring and Evaluation section presented in this document with the highest rated proposal selected. The Quechan Tribe reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of the proposal or firm fails to satisfy the Tribe's requirements and is determined by the Tribe's complete discretion.

SCOPE OF WORK:

The qualified and selected Consultant will be responsible for the completion of the Biological Assessment Technical Memorandum to meet the NEPA and IHS environmental requirements, as shown in the items that follow.

Biological Assessment Technical Memorandum.

1. Interagency Cooperation under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended, and its implementing regulations at 50 CFR Part 402, is required by Federal agencies regarding endangered or threatened species of fish, wildlife, or plants and habitat of such species that has been designated as critical. The Act requires every Federal agency, in consultation with and with the assistance of the

Secretary, to ensure that any action it authorizes, funds, or carries out, in the United States is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or results in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat. The preparation of a biological assessment, whether prepared by or under the direction of the Federal agency, concerning listed and proposed species and designated and proposed critical habitat that may be present in the action area and the evaluation potential effects of the action on such species and habitats, is required under Section 7(c) of the Act.

- 2. The Consultant shall furnish the required personnel, materials, services, equipment, and facilities necessary for the performance of the work specified in this Statement of Work in a manner consistent with accepted professional standards and procedures found at 50 CFR Part 402.12 and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The Consultant must be familiar with this law and applicable implementing regulations and must comply with them in preparing the Biological Assessment Technical Memorandum.
- 3. The Consultant must employ the following professional personnel to perform the services required under this contract. A substitution may not be made without the approval of the Quechan Tribe. The following types of personnel should perform the functions necessary to complete this scope of work:
 - i) Project Administrator. The Consultant's representative with responsibility for the overall management of this contract.
 - ii) Project Task Manager. The Consultant's personnel with management and supervisory responsibilities for individual task orders. The Project Task Manager may be from any of the professional disciplines as listed below.
 - Environmental Scientist
 - Biologist
 - Ecologist
- 4. Preparation of Biological Assessment.

Review of the WTP APE and adjacent areas. The project area is composed of an approximately 2.3-acre site. The WTP site is situated on the northwest corner of Picacho Road and unnamed farm road approximately 1,400 linear feet north of the intersection of Picacho Road and White Road. Through this Biological Assessment, the Consultant shall identify any proposed and/or listed species, which are likely to be affected by the proposed construction project. To complete the Biological Assessment, the Consultant shall complete the following:

- i) Conduct an onsite inspection of the areas to be affected, which may include a detailed survey of the area to determine if the species are present and whether suitable habitat exists for either expanding the existing population or potential reintroduction of the species.
- ii) Review literature and scientific data to determine species distribution, habitat needs, and other biological requirements.
- iii) Interview experts including those within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, state conservation departments, universities, and others who may have data not yet published in scientific literature.
- iv) Review and analyze the effects the proposed construction project will have on the species in

- terms of individuals and populations, including consideration of cumulative effects of the proposed construction project on the species and its respective habitat.
- v) Analyze alternative actions that may provide conservation measures.
- vi) Prepare a technical memorandum documenting the results, including a discussion of study methods used, any problems encountered, and other relevant information.
- 5. Biological Assessment Outline and Contents.
 - i) Analysis Area Description:
 - (a) Scope an assessment of actions on federal lands including who, what, where, and when.
 - (b) Identify listed and proposed species within the analysis area.
 - (c) Location map location of analysis area displaying boundary of the analysis area and land ownership.
 - ii) Analysis Area Description Specific to Site location:
 - (a) Natural physical characteristics.
 - (b) Man-caused physical characteristics.
 - (c) Vegetation characteristics type, condition, and trend.
 - (i) Description and distribution of species location of important nesting, roosting, rearing habitat, condition and trend of populations, life history characteristics.
 - (ii) Descriptions of habitat conditions, trend, limiting factors, and relationship to desired future condition objectives, nesting and rearing habitats (shall include Migratory Birds).
 - iii) Description of Proposed Action:
 - (a) Purpose and need of the action.
 - (b) Describe site specific activities of the proposed action. Aggregate activities and/or actions by type.
 - (c) Describe management measures and practices. Describe any units with additional or different management measures or direction. Provide a map with site-specific locations of each activity within the analysis area.
 - iv) Analysis of Potential Effects of the Proposed Action on Listed and Proposed Species (50 CFR 402.02).
 - (a) Direct and Indirect Effects provide all available scientific information pertinent to the potential effects, views of recognized experts of the species at issue, site-specific analysis of potential effects for each activity and/or action, relate potential effects to the limiting factors described above in (ii).
 - (b) Interrelated and Interdependent Actions expand discussion to include interrelated and interdependent actions which are specific to the proposed action, including detailed descriptions of effects on listed or proposed species (50 CFR 402.02).
 - (c) Cumulative Effects (50 CFR 402.02) effects of on-going and future activities (state and private), not involving Federal activities, that are reasonably certain to occur within the analysis/action area of the Federal

action subject to consultation.

v) Mitigation Measures.

- (a) Describe specific mitigation measures applied to the action which were designed to avoid, minimize, or compensate potential adverse impacts.
- (b) Describe a monitoring and evaluation plan to measure the success or failure of the mitigation measures.
- (c) Describe a fallback or emergency action plan that would be enacted should the mitigation measures fail.

vi) Determination.

- (a) Summarize available information, regarding the implementation of the action, that supports a conclusion of "no effect", "beneficial effect", "not likely to adversely affect", or "likely to adversely affect" on listed species and/or their critical habitat.
- (b) Document rationale for the determination.

vii) Appendices.

- (a) References cited.
- (b) Maps.
- (c) Photos, etc.

6. Biological Assessment Format.

- i) The Consultant shall prepare a technical memorandum which will be submitted to the Tribe and IHS. The document shall be written in plain language and shall use appropriate graphics so that decision makers can readily understand them. All results will be explained in enough detail to allow a lay person to fully comprehend the ramifications of the findings and proposed action. All technical terms will be clearly defined. In addition, the document shall be prepared on 8 ½ x 11-inch paper. The Consultant shall be responsible for assembling documents. The Consultant shall provide the Tribe and IHS with a preliminary draft Biological Assessment Technical Memorandum in a digital copy (PDF) format for the Tribe and IHS's review. Upon completion of the review, the final documents must be in digital PDF form as well as bound in a manner agreed upon by the Tribe.
- ii) All postage and fees related to submitting information (including forms, reports, etc.) to IHS or Tribe shall be paid by the Consultant, except where specifically stated otherwise.
- iii) The Consultant shall submit all materials required hereunder to the Tribe in accordance with an agreed upon date determined by the Tribe, IHS, and Consultant. All times are in calendar days, and refer to the date by which the Tribe must receive the deliverable.
- iv) All documentation that results from this contract shall be the sole property of the Tribe and will not be released in any part without prior written consent of the Tribe.

SELECTION PROCESS AND SCHEDULE.

The successful firm will be selected through a qualifications-based selection process. The selection panel will evaluate each proposal submitted according to the criteria set forth below. The Tribe will select a firm based on the proposals received without conducting formal interviews. The Tribe may conduct a due diligence review on the firm receiving the highest evaluation. IHS will assist the Tribe with the evaluation of the proposals and selection of the firm that best meets the criteria as described in this RFP document.

PROPOSAL FORMAT AND EVALUATION CRITERIA.

Responsive proposals shall describe your firm, identify the Project Manager (PM), team members, subconsultants, qualifications, and relevant experience. The PM is viewed to be important to the success of this project and it is desired to have the same PM assignment throughout the entire project. The proposal shall be specific and provide a detailed approach to the project. Specific tasks and pertinent issues which your firm identifies should be included as this will demonstrate knowledge of the SOW and may bring to light additional considerations. Prospective proposals will be evaluated by the criteria listed below that will guide which proposal best meets the needs of the Tribe.

PROPOSAL SCORING AND EVALUAT ION (100 Total Points).

- 1. Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) (45 points).
 - Experience and qualifications of the firm/sub-consultants.
 - List and description of past relevant projects, which the firm has been involved in with biological assessments.
 - Qualifications of the proposed project team, including individual resumes of all key members
 assigned to the project, and description of the role, responsibility and level of involvement by
 key team members.
 - Qualifications of the proposed PM, including resume, commitment to keep the same PM
 assigned to the job until completion and providing current and upcoming project workload to
 confirm availability.
- 2. Statement of Work and Project Approach (30 Points).
 - Describe the Scope of Work, approach, and substantive issues essential to the proper execution of the work. Any consultant additions or alternatives to the scope should be presented in this section.
- 3. Project Tasks (10 Points).
 - Describe the proposed tasks involved in completing the work. Include site meetings, proposed testing, and any field work required.
- 4. Project Schedule (5 Points).
 - Provide a bar chart diagram to identify the project tasks and the proposed project schedule with a completion date from the Notice to Proceed (NTP).
- 5. Clarity and Responsiveness (5 Points).
- 6. Cost Estimate (5 Points).

• Pricing to be noted in one Lump Sum (LS) amount for all work to be accomplished.

PERFORMANCE PERIOD.

A maximum of a two (2) month period to complete the scope of work. Proposal performance periods exceeding two months to complete the work will be considered unresponsive. The Consultant shall promptly inform the Tribe of any conditions, which may cause a significant delay in the delivery of these studies.

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS.

Once awarded, the work will be executed according to the specifications outlined in the contract documents package, which includes the following:

- This Request for Proposal.
- APE Map and Location of the Quechan Water Treatment Site (Appendix A).
- Preliminary Carollo Engineers Site Plan (Appendix B).
- FEMA FIRM Map (Appendix C).
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife (UFSWS) Preliminary IPAC Report (Appendix D).
- Indian Preference Form (Appendix E).

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.

Questions concerning this Request for Proposal and the Scope of Work described herein may be submitted by prospective firms in writing as a Request for Information (RFI). The EDA encourages the submission of such questions to reduce uncertainty about the details of the Scope of Work by correcting mistakes or clarifying ambiguous descriptions. Submissions must be made via e-mail. Submissions must be received at the EDA Office no later than **March 22**, **2024**, at **4:00 pm Arizona Time**. RFIs and their answers will be formatted, made anonymous, and shared with all prospective firms within two (2) calendar days of the submission deadline. Please send RFIs to the attention of Osvaldo Holmes, EDA Planner, at the following email: edaplanner@quechantribe.com.

PROPOSAL DEADLINE AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS.

Responsive firms will provide one (1) hard copy and one (1) digital copy of their Proposal, along with the cost estimate in a sealed envelope. Responsive firms will submit all of these documents in a sealed envelope marked "Proposal for PH17-V19 / WA# 19-23 RFP: Consultant Services for a Biological Assessment, New Water Treatment Plant Construction." Responsive firms will submit their proposals to the EDA Office by mail to the address listed above, or hand delivered to its office at 604 Picacho Road, Suite 4 (at the Quechan Community Center), Winterhaven, CA, on or before March 29, 2024, at 4:00 pm Arizona Time. Emailed proposals will be accepted as the digital copy and can be sent to Osvaldo Holmes at: edaplanner@quechantribe.com, but the hard copy of the proposal must also be provided in the manner described above on or before the stated deadline. Late proposals and those received via fax will be rejected.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

1. The Tribe may waive any informalities or minor defects or reject any and all proposals. Any proposal may be withdrawn prior to the above scheduled time for the opening of proposals or authorized postponement

thereof. Any proposal received after the time and date specified will not be considered. No firm may withdraw a proposal within sixty (60) days after the actual date of the opening thereof. Should there be reasons why the contract cannot be awarded within the specified period, the time may be extended by mutual agreement between the Tribe and the firm.

- 2. Prospective firms must ensure the accuracy of the RFP by examination of the site and a review of the proposal submittal requirements including any issued addendum. After proposals have been submitted, the submitting firm will not assert that there was a misunderstanding concerning the quantities of work or of the nature of the work to be done.
- 3. The Notice to Proceed (NTP) will be issued within ten (10) days of the execution of the Agreement by the Tribe. The commence work date will be established by the Tribe in the NTP. The awardee must execute the NTP within ten (10) days of receipt. Should there be reasons why the NTP cannot be issued within such period, the time may be extended by mutual agreement between the Tribe and awardee. If the NTP has not been issued within the ten (10) day period or within the period mutually agreed upon, the firm may terminate the Agreement without further liability on the part of either party.
- 4. The Tribe may make such investigations as they deem necessary to determine the ability of the firm to perform the work, and the firm will furnish to the Tribe all such information and data for this purpose as the Tribe may request. The Tribe reserves the right to reject any proposal if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such firm fails to satisfy the Tribe that such firm is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the Agreement and to complete the work contemplated therein.
- 5. A conditional or qualified proposal will not be accepted.
- 6. All applicable laws, ordinances, and the rules and regulations of all authorities having jurisdiction over construction of the project will apply to the contract throughout.
- 7. The Tribe gives Indian preference in the selection of a consultant in the event of equally qualified consultants. For Indian preference consideration, the interested firm must complete and submit the Indian Preference Form found in Appendix E.
- 8. The Tribe reserves the right to decline to enter into an Agreement.
- 9. Prior to beginning work, the successful firm must possess a Tribal Business Permit from the EDA for the duration of the project. All sub-consultants and service providers who conduct business within the exterior boundaries of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation must also possess a Tribal Business Permit. Many service providers and material vendors already maintain valid permits; inquire to EDA for a list.
- 10. The successful firm must also complete and submit a Compliance Plan under the Tribe's Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) to ensure that qualified Tribal members are provided opportunities to perform work as employees of the firm or team.

POINT OF CONTACT INFORMATION.

| Project Coordinator | Indian Health Service Engineer | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Osvaldo Holmes, EDA Planner | Alan Showalter, Sr. Field Engineer | |
| 760-572-5270 | 480-957-9259 | |
| edaplanner@quechantribe.com | alan.showalter@ihs.gov | |
| Business Permits | Indian Health Service Construction Inspector | |
| Eva Castro, EDA Assistant Planner | Samuel Zamora, Engineering Technician | |
| 760-572-5270 | 928-920-6252 | |
| edaasstplanner@quechantribe.com | samuel.zamora@ihs.gov | |
| TERO Compliance Plans | Public Works Department | |
| Robyn Waco, TERO Officer | Yadira Swift Arrow, Interim Director | |
| 760-919-3600, ext. 276 | 928-920-4238 | |
| teroofficer@quechantribe.com | publicworksdirector@quechantribe.com | |

APPENDICES

Appendix A – APE Map and Location of the Quechan Water Treatment Site

Appendix B – Preliminary Carollo Engineers Site Plan

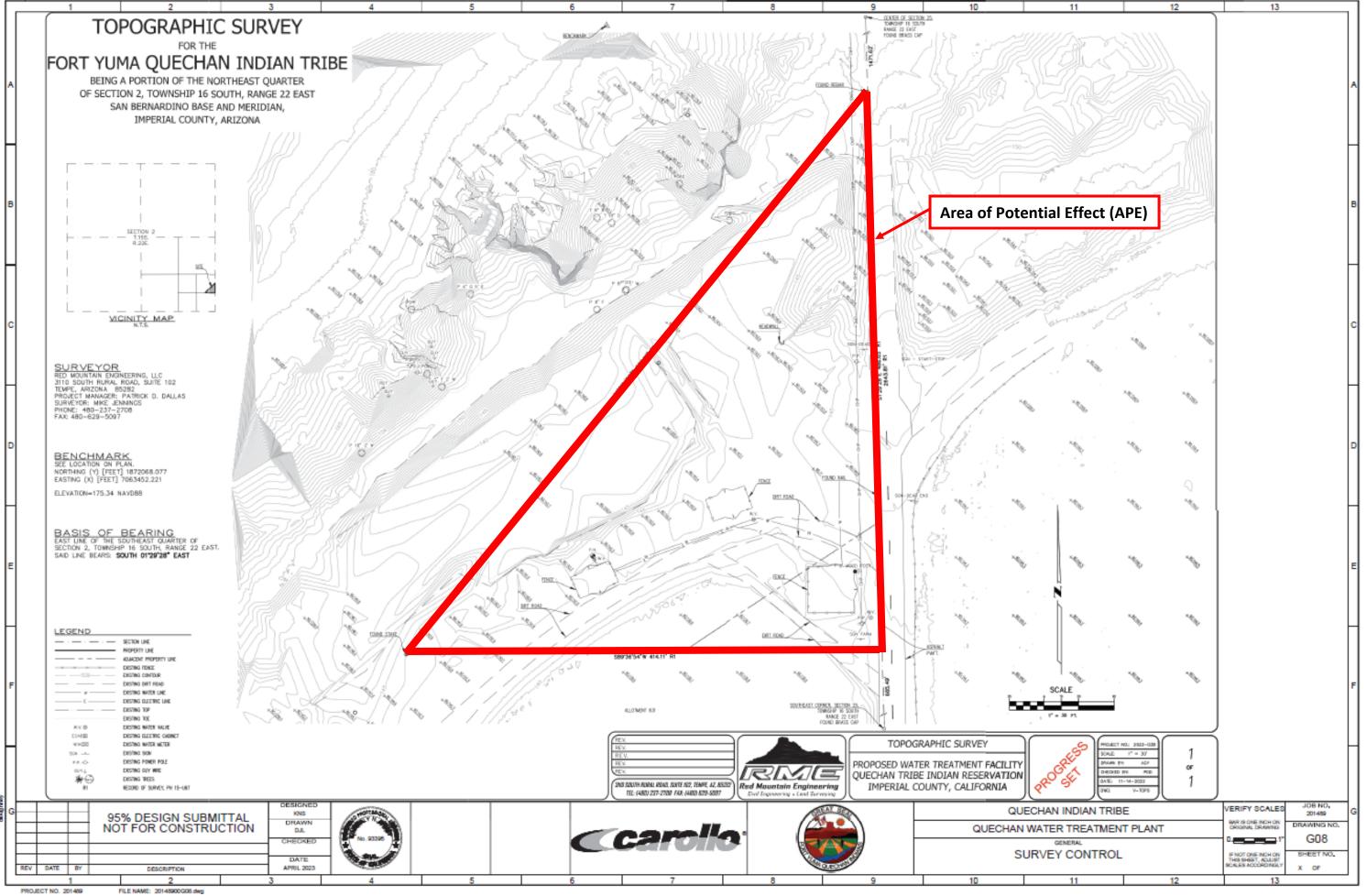
Appendix C – FEMA FIRM Map

Appendix D – U.S. Fish and Wildlife (UFSWS) Preliminary IPAC Report

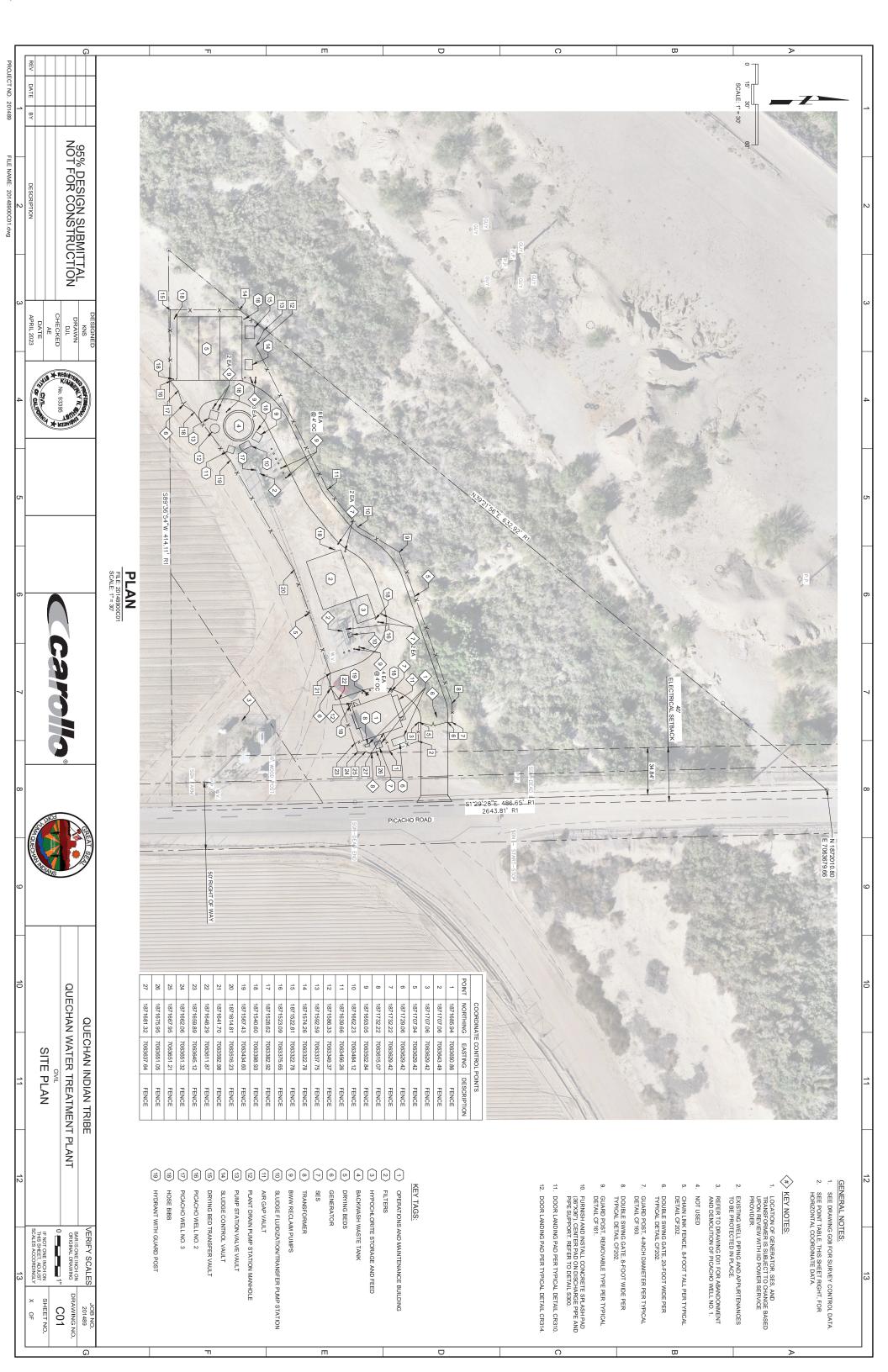
Appendix E – Indian Preference Form

APPENDIX A

APE Map and Location of the Quechan Water Treatment Site



APPENDIX BPreliminary Carollo Engineers Site Plan



APPENDIX C FEMA FIRM Map

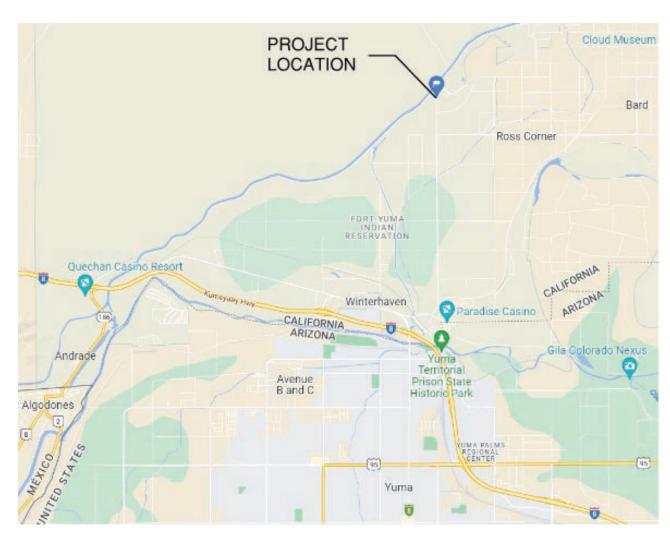


Figure 1 Vicinity Map



Figure 2 Location Map



The FIRMette for this area is shown in Figure 3.

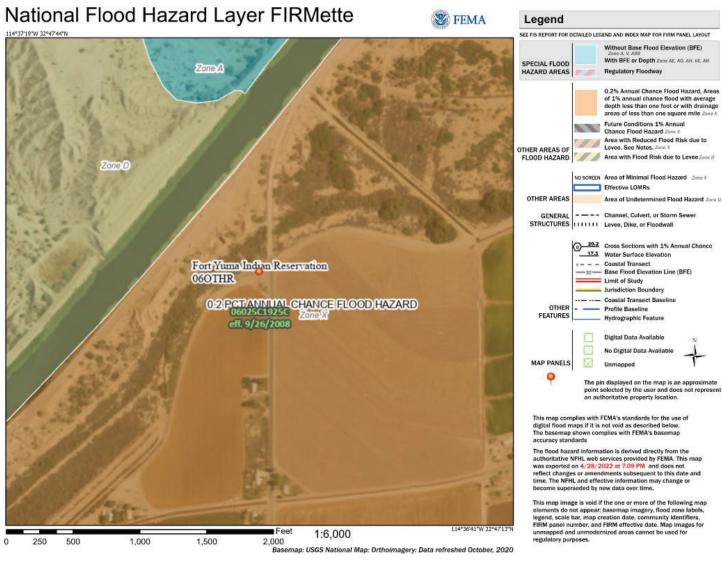


Figure 3 FIRMette



APPENDIX D

U.S. Fish and Wildlife (UFSWS) Preliminary IPAC Report

IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as trust resources) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

RCONSULTAT

Location

Imperial County, California



Local office

Carlsbad Fish And Wildlife Office

(760) 431-9440

(760) 431-5901

2177 Salk Avenue - Suite 250 Carlsbad, CA 92008-7385

Endangered species

This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

- 1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
- 2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
- 3. Log in (if directed to do so).
- 4. Provide a name and description for your project.
- 5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species¹ and their critical habitats are managed by the <u>Ecological Services Program</u> of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries²).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact <u>NOAA Fisheries</u> for species under their jurisdiction.

- 1. Species listed under the <u>Endangered Species Act</u> are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the <u>listing status page</u> for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).
- 2. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

No critical habitat has been designated for this species.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743

Birds

| NAME | STATUS |
|---|------------|
| Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Empidonax traillii extimus Wherever found There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6749 | Endangered |
| Yuma Ridgway's Rail Rallus obsoletus yumanensis Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3505 | Endangered |
| Insects NAME | STATUS |
| Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus | Candidate |

Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described <u>below</u>.

- 1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
- 2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the <u>USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ <u>below</u>. This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the <u>E-bird data mapping tool</u> (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found <u>below</u>.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

Costa's Hummingbird Calypte costae

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9470

Gila Woodpecker Melanerpes uropygialis

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5960

Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

- 1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
- 2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.
- 3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

Breeding Season (=)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (I)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

No Data (-)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

Nationwide Conservation Measures describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. Additional measures or permits may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS <u>Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC)</u> and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u> and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (<u>Eagle Act</u> requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. This data is derived from a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u>.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the RAIL Tool and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

- 1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
- 2. "BCC BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
- 3. "Non-BCC Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the <u>Eagle Act</u> requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the Northeast Ocean Data Portal. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the <u>Diving Bird Study</u> and the <u>nanotag studies</u> or contact <u>Caleb Spiegel</u> or <u>Pam Loring</u>.

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Facilities

National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the <u>National Wildlife Refuge</u> system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to <u>NWI wetlands</u> and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local <u>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District</u>.

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

This location overlaps the following wetlands:

FRESHWATER FORESTED/SHRUB WETLAND

PSS₁

RIVERINE

R4SBC

A full description for each wetland code can be found at the National Wetlands Inventory website

NOTE: This initial screening does **not** replace an on-site delineation to determine whether wetlands occur. Additional information on the NWI data is provided below.

Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

Data exclusions

Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tuberficid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

Data precautions

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

APPENDIX E

Indian Preference Form

INDIAN OWNED ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE QUALIFICATION STATEMENT

The undersigned certifies under oath the truth and correctness of all answers to questions made hereinafter: 1. Name of Enterprise: Address: Telephone #: _____ 2. Check One: Corporation Joint Venture Partnership Other: Sole Proprietorship 3. Answer the Following: If a Corporation: Date of Incorporation: _____ a. b. State of Incorporation: _____ Name & Address of Statutory Agent: _____ C. Give the names and address of the officers and members of the Board of Directors of this d. Corporation and establish whether they are Indian (I) or Non-Indian (NI). % of Stock Name & I or __ NI Social Security Title Address Ownership President # Vice-President ______ Sec/Clerk # ------Treasurer

Complete the following information on all stockholders who are not listed in d. above, owning 5% e. or more of the stock. Establish whether they are Indian (I) or Non-Indian (NI). I or % of Stock Name & Social Security NI Title Address Ownership If a Sole Proprietorship or Partnership: Date of Organization: ___ a. Give the following information on the individual or partners and establish whether they b. are Indian (I) or Non-Indian (NI). Name & I or % of Stock Social Security NI Title Address Ownership If a Joint Venture: a. Date of Joint Venture Agreement: b. Attach the information for each member of the joint venture prepared in the appropriate format given above. Give the name, address, and telephone number of the principal spokesperson of your 4.

organization:

| 5. | or Tribal agency | se been certified as an India to qualify for special consident acts by any government Yes | eration under Indian prefer | ence contract clauses, or | |
|---|---------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------|--|
| | If yes, complete | : | | | |
| Cor | ntract Date | Contracting Agency | Contract No. | Location of Work | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 6. Will any officer or partner listed in #3 be engaged in outside employment? | | | | | |
| | | Yes | No | | |
| | If yes, complete <u>Name</u> | | <u>Description of Outside Employment</u> | | |
| | | | | | |
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| | | | | | |

Indian Owned Economic Enterprise, Page 4 of 5

| 7. | Does this enterprise have any subsidiaries or affiliates or is it a subsidiary or affiliate of another concern? | | | | |
|-----|---|--|--|--|--|
| | Yes No | | | | |
| | If yes, complete: | | | | |
| | Name & Address of Subsidiary, Affiliate or Other Concern Description of Relationship | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 8. | Does this enterprise or any person listed in #3 above have or intend to enter into any type of agreement with any other concern or person which relates to or affects the on-going administration, management or operations of this enterprise? These include but are not limited to management, and joint venture agreements and any arrangement or contract involving the provision of such compensated services as administrative assistance, data processing, management consulting of all types, marketing, purchasing, production and other types of compensated assistance. | | | | |
| | Yes No | | | | |
| | If yes, attach a copy of any written agreement or an explanation of any oral or intended agreement. | | | | |
| 9. | Attach certification by a Tribe or other evidence of enrollment in a federally recognized Tribe for each officer, partner, or individual designated as an Indian in #3. | | | | |
| 10. | Attach a certified copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, by-laws, partnership agreement, | | | | |
| 11. | joint venture agreement and/or other pertinent organizational documentation. Explain in narrative form the stock ownership, structure, management, control, financing, and salary or profit sharing arrangements of the enterprise, if not covered in answers to specific questions heretofore. Attach copies of all shareholder agreements, including voting trust, employment contracts, agreements between owners and enterprise. Include information on salaries, fees, profit sharing, material purchase, and equipment lease or purchase arrangements. Evidence relating to structure, management, control, and financing should be | | | | |

NOTES:

I. Omission of any information may be cause for rejection of claim for Indian Preference.

specifically included. Also, list the specific management responsibilities of each principal, sole proprietor, partner, or party to a joint venture (as appropriate) listed in response to #3.

- II. The persons signing below certify that all information in this INDIAN OWNED ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE QUALIFICATION STATEMENT, including exhibits and attachments, is true and correct.
- III. Print and type name below all signatures.

| If applicant is Sole Proprietor, Sign Below: | | | | |
|--|--|--------------|-------------|--|
| | | | | |
| | Name | | Date | |
| If applicant is | s in a Partnership or Joint Venture, all F | artners must | sign below: | |
| | Name | | Date | |
| | Name | | Date | |
| If applicant is | a corporation, affix corporate seal: | | | |
| | Corporate Seal | | Date | |
| Ву: | President's Signature | | | |
| Attested by: | Corporate Secretary's Signature | | | |

WARNING: U.S. Criminal Code, Section 1010, Title 18, U.S.C. provides in part:

"Whoever...makes, passes, utters, or publishes any statement, knowing the same to be false...shall be fined not more than \$5000 or imprisoned not more than two years, or both."