

*Appendix F*  
*Native American Correspondence*  
*and Responses*



Native American Correspondence and Responses  
Letter to Juaneno Band of Mission Indians  
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**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

May 26, 2006  
(2006-079)

Anthony Rivera, Chairman  
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation  
31411-A Matanza Street  
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675-2674

**SUBJECT: Interstate 5/SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange Improvement Project,  
San Juan Capistrano, Orange County**

Dear Mr. Rivera:

ECORP Consulting, Inc., is conducting cultural resources investigations for proposed improvements to the Interstate 5 / SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange in San Juan Capistrano, Orange County. The project is proposed by the City of San Juan Capistrano with funding and review by Caltrans. The cultural resources investigations will provide information to be used in the Section 106 consultation process and for the EIR/EA being prepared for the project.

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I am requesting information or comments about the proposed project on behalf of Caltrans and the Federal Highways Administration (FHWA). I wish to be informed about any concerns you may have regarding sacred lands or other cultural resources that you have knowledge of in or near the project area. If there are specific sacred lands or other cultural resources in or near this location that should be avoided by the proposed project, please contact me in writing at our Santa Ana address.

In the absence of any contact from you within 30 days from this date, I will assume that you do not wish to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger D. Mason".

Roger D. Mason, Ph.D., RPA  
Project Archaeologist

1801 Park Court Place  
Building B, Suite 103  
Santa Ana, California 92701  
Tele: (714) 648-0630  
Fax: (714) 648-0935  
Email: [ecorp@ecorpconsulting.com](mailto:ecorp@ecorpconsulting.com)  
Web: [www.ecorpconsulting.com](http://www.ecorpconsulting.com)

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**JUANEÑO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS  
ACJACHEMEN NATION**

Tribal Council  
Anthony Rivera, Jr. • Chairman Fran Yorba • Vice Chair  
Christopher A. Lobo • Secretary/Treasurer  
Colletta Cole • Member at Large Chris Sandoval • Member at Large

August 14, 2006

Roger Mason  
ECORP Consulting  
1801 Park Court Place  
Santa Ana, CA. 92701

**Subject: Interstate 5/SR-74 Interchange Improvement Project, San Juan Capistrano, CA.**

The Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation (the "Tribe"), a State-recognized Native American Indian tribe, and the indigenous people of Orange County and surrounding areas including but not limited to the proposed project areas, submit comment on Interstate 5/SR-74 Interchange Improvement Project in San Juan Capistrano, CA.

The Tribe would like to participate in the Section 106 Consultation under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as well as the CEQA process to consult and comment on possible cultural impacts of this project to determine that our cultural resources concerns are being addressed appropriately. This area of San Juan Capistrano has historically contained significant cultural value and resources of the Tribe due to the project vicinity to the Mission San Juan Capistrano and the Old Mission Cemetery. We seek to work together to determine areas of concern and identify avoidance, minimization, monitoring, or mitigation measures that would address any potential impacts from the project on our cultural resources. In order to provide complete comments we request a copy of the archaeological reports and records search, literature review, field surveys, and the NAHC Sacred Lands file search for our confidential file.

The Tribe has an established Archaeology Committee and traditional experts who engage in consultation and review all Section 106 and CEQA/NEPA compliance relating to our territory and culture. We also have trained and certified Native American Monitors who are qualified to monitor construction and archaeological activities. We wish to express our utmost concern for any potential impacts upon Juaneño cultural and natural resources, as well as disturbances to ancestral burials grounds, artifacts, and traditional natural materials that may occur due to ground disturbance, or construction activities. To guard against the disturbance of Juaneño cultural resources and burials, we recommend that we be consulted and that Juaneño monitors approved by our Archaeological Committee and Tribal Council be utilized to monitor project construction and archaeological activities.

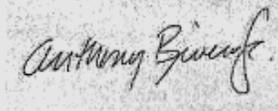
31411-A La Matanza Street San Juan Capistrano CA 92675-2674 Phone (949)488-3484, Fax (949)488-3294  
[www.juaneño.com](http://www.juaneño.com)

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Finally, the Tribe is a State-recognized Tribe, designated as the "Governing Body" of the Acjachemen Nation by the U.S. Department of Interior, and a licensed and insured tribal corporation (specific documentary proof can be provided), and therefore has authority to consult in behalf of the Tribe. Again, the Tribe wishes to work cooperatively with Caltrans and ECORP to accomplish the goals of the project. Thank you for contacting the Tribe and we look forward to consulting with you soon. Please contact me via email at [arivera@juaneno.com](mailto:arivera@juaneno.com) to set up a private and confidential consultation meeting with the Tribe. You can also contact our Tribal Office by phone (949) 488-3484, fax (949) 488-3294, or via the internet at [www.juaneno.com](http://www.juaneno.com).

Sincerely,



Anthony Rivera, Jr.  
Tribal Chairman  
Juaneño Band of Mission Indians,  
Acjachemen Nation  
949.488.3484  
[arivera@juaneno.com](mailto:arivera@juaneno.com)

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**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

May 26, 2006  
(2006-079)

David Belardes  
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation  
31742 Via Belardes  
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

**SUBJECT: Interstate 5/SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange Improvement Project,  
San Juan Capistrano, Orange County**

Dear Mr. Belardes:

ECORP Consulting, Inc., is conducting cultural resources investigations for proposed improvements to the Interstate 5 / SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange in San Juan Capistrano, Orange County. The project is proposed by the City of San Juan Capistrano with funding and review by Caltrans. The cultural resources investigations will provide information to be used in the Section 106 consultation process and for the EIR/EA being prepared for the project.

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Sincerely,

**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**

Roger D. Mason, Ph.D., RPA  
Project Archaeologist

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Building B, Suite 103  
Santa Ana, California 92701  
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**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

May 26, 2006  
(2006-079)

Joyce Perry  
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation  
31742 Via Belardes  
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

**SUBJECT: Interstate 5/SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange Improvement Project,  
San Juan Capistrano, Orange County**

Dear Ms. Perry:

ECORP Consulting, Inc., is conducting cultural resources investigations for proposed improvements to the Interstate 5 / SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange in San Juan Capistrano, Orange County. The project is proposed by the City of San Juan Capistrano with funding and review by Caltrans. The cultural resources investigations will provide information to be used in the Section 106 consultation process and for the EIR/EA being prepared for the project.

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Roger D. Mason, Ph.D., RPA  
Project Archaeologist

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**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

May 26, 2006  
(2006-079)

Alfred Cruz  
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians  
P.O. Box 25628  
Santa Ana, CA 92799

**SUBJECT: Interstate 5/SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange Improvement Project,  
San Juan Capistrano, Orange County**

Dear Mr. Cruz:

ECORP Consulting, Inc., is conducting cultural resources investigations for proposed improvements to the Interstate 5 / SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange in San Juan Capistrano, Orange County. The project is proposed by the City of San Juan Capistrano with funding and review by Caltrans. The cultural resources investigations will provide information to be used in the Section 106 consultation process and for the EIR/EA being prepared for the project.

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Sincerely,

**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Roger D. Mason". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Roger D. Mason, Ph.D., RPA  
Project Archaeologist

1801 Park Court Place  
Building B, Suite 103  
Santa Ana, California 92701  
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**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

May 26, 2006  
(2006-079)

Sonia Johnston  
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians  
P.O. Box 25628  
Santa Ana, CA 92799

**SUBJECT: Interstate 5/SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange Improvement Project,  
San Juan Capistrano, Orange County**

Dear Ms. Johnston:

ECORP Consulting, Inc., is conducting cultural resources investigations for proposed improvements to the Interstate 5 / SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange in San Juan Capistrano, Orange County. The project is proposed by the City of San Juan Capistrano with funding and review by Caltrans. The cultural resources investigations will provide information to be used in the Section 106 consultation process and for the EIR/EA being prepared for the project.

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Roger D. Mason, Ph.D., RPA  
Project Archaeologist

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**JUANEÑO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS**  
Traditionally Known as The Acjachemem Nation

November 1, 2006

Mr. Stephen O'Neil  
SWCA Environmental Consultants  
23392 Madero, Suite L  
Mission Viejo, CA 92691

**TRIBAL COUNCIL**

Chairperson:  
Sonia Johnston

Vice-Chairman:  
Joe O'Campo

Secretary:  
Cecelia Munoz

Treasurer:  
Stella Osborne

Member at Large:  
Alfred Cruz

**COMMITTEES**

Genealogy:  
Anita Espinoza

Language:  
Darrell Johnston

**LEGAL COUNCIL**  
Nadia M. Davis, Esq.  
Monteau & Peebles

Dear Steve,

This is in response to your letter dated October 23, 2006, and your consultation visit on October 30, 2006, regarding concerns that the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians have for the proposed improvements for the Ortega Highway/San Diego Freeway I-5 interchange. Thank you for consulting with us on this project.

As we discussed, this is a very sensitive area and as the descendants of the indigenous people of this land, we are deeply concerned with the disturbance and destruction of any of our traditional, spiritual, archaeological and cultural sites.

The village of Acjacheme is within the project site alternatives and we are deeply concerned that it will be disturbed and destroyed. We have been informed and believe that it is an extension of Putiidhem, and since Putiidhem has been destroyed, this area represents all that may be left of our cultural and spiritual ties to the city of San Juan Capistrano.

This is an extremely sensitive and significant area and there are known and unknown sites within the project area. These sites are more than likely to be discovered during any construction and/or development project. They are very fragile and non-renewable and given the current state of the art, archeological excavations and construction are destructive. The scientific knowledge that can be recovered through these types of excavations does not mitigate for the losses to our cultural and religious values.

Our culture requires that we, as individuals and families, have access to those areas that assist us in the renewing of our spiritual and cultural well-being. This "renewing" has allowed us to maintain the lifeways and values that our grandparents have provided us in our continued struggle for survival. Without these traditional areas of prayer and reflection our self-esteem, our history and our culture are threatened. This culture is a large part of our life and as we walk in two worlds we feel whole and familiar. Should this site be destroyed it will destroy the part that of us that makes us feel whole, secure and self-confident.

We vigorously support the nomination of this area to the National Register of Historic Places and would like to be kept informed of the progress and/or any decision that may affect the area itself.

Thank you again for your consideration and cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Sonia Johnston  
Tribal Chairperson  
JUANEÑO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

27001 La Paz Road, Suite 330 • Mission Viejo, CA 92691  
P.O. Box 25628 • Santa Ana, CA 92799 • Phone: (949) 462-0710 • Fax: (949) 462-9451  
e-mail: juaneño@sbcglobal or ajuaneño@verizon.net • website address: www.juaneñoIndians.com

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**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

May 26, 2006  
(2006-079)

Anthony Rivas  
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation  
31411-A La Matanza Street  
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675-2674

**SUBJECT: Interstate 5/SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange Improvement Project,  
San Juan Capistrano, Orange County**

Dear Mr. Rivas:

ECORP Consulting, Inc., is conducting cultural resources investigations for proposed improvements to the Interstate 5 / SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange in San Juan Capistrano, Orange County. The project is proposed by the City of San Juan Capistrano with funding and review by Caltrans. The cultural resources investigations will provide information to be used in the Section 106 consultation process and for the EIR/EA being prepared for the project.

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In the absence of any contact from you within 30 days from this date, I will assume that you do not wish to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**

Roger D. Mason, Ph.D., RPA  
Project Archaeologist

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Building B, Suite 103  
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**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

May 26, 2006  
(2006-079)

Kristen Rivers  
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians  
P.O. Box 25628  
Santa Ana, CA 92799

**SUBJECT: Interstate 5/SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange Improvement Project,  
San Juan Capistrano, Orange County**

Dear Ms. Rivers:

ECORP Consulting, Inc., is conducting cultural resources investigations for proposed improvements to the Interstate 5 / SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange in San Juan Capistrano, Orange County. The project is proposed by the City of San Juan Capistrano with funding and review by Caltrans. The cultural resources investigations will provide information to be used in the Section 106 consultation process and for the EIR/EA being prepared for the project.

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Roger D. Mason, Ph.D., RPA  
Project Archaeologist

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**ECORP Consulting, Inc.**  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

May 26, 2006  
(2006-079)

Anita Espinoza  
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians  
1740 Concerto Drive  
Anaheim, CA 92807

**SUBJECT: Interstate 5/SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange Improvement Project,  
San Juan Capistrano, Orange County**

Dear Ms. Espinoza:

ECORP Consulting, Inc., is conducting cultural resources investigations for proposed improvements to the Interstate 5 / SR-74 (Ortega Highway) Interchange in San Juan Capistrano, Orange County. The project is proposed by the City of San Juan Capistrano with funding and review by Caltrans. The cultural resources investigations will provide information to be used in the Section 106 consultation process and for the EIR/EA being prepared for the project.

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