

Section 3.5 Cultural Resources

This section presents a discussion of the existing setting for cultural resources at the Project site and an evaluation of potential impacts of the Project on cultural resources.

Cultural resources include archaeological resources, historical resources and paleontological resources which are defined as follows.

- “Archaeological resources” for this report includes both surficial and buried prehistoric and historic cultural materials. Geoarchaeological resources are prehistoric cultural resources that have been buried under sediments due to river flows over time.
- “Historical resources” for this report includes historic building and other structures.
- “Paleontological resources” for this report includes surface and buried fossils containing information about past plants and wildlife.

A summary of the impacts and mitigation measures for proposed development is presented in **Table 3.5-1**.

Analysis of the impacts related to cultural resources was based on the following materials and sources.

- A review of existing published literature and cultural resource reports that were prepared for development in and immediately adjacent to the Project site, and the professional opinions rendered in these documents.
- A review of plans for construction and grading at the Project site.
- A site visit conducted by ICF staff and the professional judgment of an ICF archaeologist and an ICF architectural historian.

Table 3.5-1. Summary of Project Impacts on Cultural Resources

Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation	Significance After Mitigation
A. Historical Resources			
CR-A1. The Project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.	No Impact	None required	--
B. Archaeological Resources			
CR-B1. Project grading and excavation could result in disturbance to previously undiscovered archaeological resources and cause substantial adverse change in the significance of a unique archaeological resource.	Less than Significant	None required	--

Impact	Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation	Significance After Mitigation
C. Human Remains			
CR-C1. Project grading and excavation could result in disturbance to previously undiscovered human remains.	Less than Significant	None required	--
D. Paleontological Resources			
CR-D1. Project grading and excavation could result in disturbance and destruction of a previously undiscovered unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.	Less than Significant	None required	--

-- = Not applicable.

1 **Regulatory Setting**

2 **Federal and State**

3 No federal regulations regarding cultural resources apply to the Project.

4 **California Environmental Quality Act and Guidelines**

5 **Cultural Resources**

6 CEQA contains specific guidelines for evaluating a project’s impacts on cultural resources, including
 7 historical, archaeological, and Native American resources. The CEQA guidelines define significant
 8 historical resources as: 1) resources listed in or eligible for listing in the California Register of
 9 Historical Resources (CRHR); 2) resources listed in a local register of historical resources; and 3)
 10 any object, building, structure, site, area, or place a lead agency determines to be historically
 11 significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social,
 12 political, military, or cultural annals of California (Public Resources Code [PRC] Section 5024.1, State
 13 CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5[a]). CEQA also contains guidelines and regulations for evaluating
 14 and mitigating potential impacts on archaeological and Native American resources (State CEQA
 15 Guidelines Section 15064.5[c] and [d]).

16 A resource may be eligible for listing in the CRHR if it meets any of the following criteria.

- 17 ● It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of
 18 California’s history and cultural heritage.
- 19 ● It is associated with the lives of important historical figures.
- 20 ● It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or
 21 represents the work of an important creative individual.
- 22 ● It possesses high artistic value.
- 23 ● It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, important prehistoric or historic information.

1 The question of integrity is an additional factor that must be addressed. Integrity is determined
2 through application of seven factors: location, design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling, and
3 association. These factors can be roughly grouped into three types of integrity considerations.
4 Location and setting address the relationship between the property and its environment. Design,
5 materials, and workmanship, as they apply to historic buildings, relate to construction methods and
6 architectural details. Feeling and association are the least objective of the seven criteria, and pertain
7 to the overall ability of the property to convey a sense of the historical time and place in which it
8 was constructed. Loss of integrity, if substantial, will render a property ineligible, irrespective of
9 significance. Likewise, a resource can have complete integrity, but if it lacks significance it must also
10 be considered ineligible.

11 **Paleontological Resources**

12 Under CEQA, destruction of a “unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature”
13 constitutes a significant impact. The treatment of paleontological resources under CEQA generally
14 requires an evaluation of resources in a project’s area of potential effect; an assessment of potential
15 impacts on significant or unique resources; and the development of mitigation measures for
16 potentially significant impacts, which may include monitoring combined with data recovery or
17 avoidance (or both).

18 The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) Conformable Impact Mitigation Guidelines (SVP
19 guidelines) (Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Conformable Impact Mitigation Guidelines
20 Committee 2015) provide a method to comply with CEQA and local ordinances and laws which
21 protect paleontological resources. According to the SVP guidelines, significant paleontological
22 resources are defined as fossils that provide important information on evolution, age of a
23 sedimentary strata, past environments, and biotic history, and which are rare or in short supply.

24 **Local**

25 **2010 Monterey County General Plan**

26 The following 2010 Monterey County General Plan policies pertain to cultural and paleontological
27 resources (Monterey County 2010).

28 **Policy OS-6.1:** Important representative and unique archaeological sites and features shall be
29 identified and protected for all parcels with undisturbed natural conditions (i.e., ungraded
30 properties), consistent with State Office of Historic Preservation guidelines and definitions employed
31 on a statewide basis, including Phase I, II, and III studies.

32 **Policy OS-6.3:** New development proposed within moderate or high sensitivity zones, or within 150
33 feet of a known recorded archaeological and/or cultural site, shall complete a Phase I survey
34 including use of the regional State Office of Historic Preservation or the California Native American
35 Heritage Commission’s list of sacred and traditional sites. Routine and Ongoing Agricultural Activities
36 shall be exempted from this policy in so far as allowed by state or federal law.

37 **Policy OS-6.4:** Development proposed in low sensitivity zones are not required to have an
38 archaeological survey unless there is specific additional information that suggests archaeological
39 resources are present.

40 **Policy OS-6.6:** Efforts by historical, educational, or other organizations to improve the public’s
41 recognition of the County’s cultural heritage and the citizen’s responsibilities for archaeological or
42 cultural resource preservation shall be encouraged. The County shall adopt a uniform set of
43 guidelines to define Phase I, II, and III significance assessment and data recovery programs. Similar

1 guidelines shall be created to set standards for requirements for consultation with Native Californian
2 descendants to establish procedures for determining the presence or absence of sacred or traditional
3 sites. These guidelines shall address monitoring requirements and participation in cultural resource
4 data recovery programs.

5 **Policy OS-7.3:** Development proposed within high and moderate sensitivity zones and known fossil
6 bearing formations shall require a paleontological field inspection prior to approval. Routine and
7 Ongoing Agricultural Activities are exempted from this policy in so far as allowed by state or federal
8 law.

9 **Policy OS-7.4:** Development proposed in low sensitivity zones are not required to have a
10 paleontological survey unless there is specific additional information that suggests paleontological
11 resources are present.

12 **Policy OS-7.5:** Policies and procedures shall be established that encourage development to avoid
13 impacts to sensitive paleontological sites including: a. designing or clustering development to avoid
14 paleontological deposits; b. requiring dedication of permanent conservation easements where
15 subdivisions and other developments can be planned to provide for such protective easements.

16 The 2010 Monterey County General Plan Environmental Impact Report (ICF Jones & Stokes 2008)
17 provides the following exhibits for implementing general plan policies:

- 18 • **Archaeological Sensitivity** (Exhibit 4.10.2). This map displays three archaeological sensitivity
19 zones (low, moderate, and high), based on available information and knowledge of those
20 topographic characteristics most often associated with archaeological sites. Zones of high
21 sensitivity are found along the coast and inland along the Carmel River and along the major
22 creeks. Because of the Project site's relative proximity (within 1 mile) of the Pacific Ocean, and
23 also because a water source, the Sawmill Gulch, flows through the Project site (although not in
24 the development area), the Project site is considered to be in a high sensitivity zone.
- 25 • **Historic Resources** (Exhibit 4.10.3). This map displays primary historical resources that are
26 located in the County and that are listed on the Monterey County Inventory of Historic
27 Resources (MCIHR). The MCIHR listing meets the requirements of PRC Section 5020.1(k), which
28 states that properties officially designated or recognized as historically significant by a local
29 government are considered significant resources for the purposes of CEQA. However, there are
30 no buildings or structures on the Project site, and none of the buildings or structures in the
31 project vicinity is included on the map of the MCIHR.
- 32 • **Paleontological Resources** (Exhibit 4.10.1). This map identifies the 12 significant
33 paleontological localities within the County. None of the 12 sites within the County that have
34 been identified as having significant paleontological resources is near the Project site.

35 **Monterey County Historic Preservation Ordinance**

36 Chapter 18.25 of the Monterey County Code of Ordinances (Preservation of Historic Resources)
37 outlines the policies and procedures for administering historic resources in Monterey County (Page
38 & Turnbull 2013). Based on the field survey and Exhibit 4.10.3 Historic Resources (described
39 above), there are no structures or historic resources on the Project site.

1 **Monterey County Standard Conditions of Approval**

2 The Project would be required to comply with Monterey County's Standard Conditions of Approval
3 which include, but may not be limited to, the following applicable condition (Monterey County
4 2014). Refer to Chapter 2, *Project Description*, for the full text of the conditions of approval.

5 PD003(A): Cultural Resources – Inadvertent Discovery

6 PD003(B): Human Remains

7 **Environmental Setting**

8 **Regional Conditions**

9 The regional conditions for cultural resources consist of the prehistoric, ethnographic,
10 geoarchaeological, and historical contexts of the Project site and surrounding lands. A summary of
11 the regional conditions, based on previous reports and other secondary sources, is presented in
12 **Appendix F, *Cultural Resources Regional Background***.

13 **Site-Specific Conditions**

14 There are no known archaeological resources on the Project site based on a records search,
15 literature review, consultation with the Native American Heritage Commission, and site geology.
16 There are no structures or historic resources on the Project site based on a field visit. The likelihood
17 of paleontological resources is low based on the geology and paleontological sensitivity of the site.

18 **Literature Review and Records Search**

19 The following literature was reviewed.

- 20 • Archaeological Consulting. 1989. *Preliminary Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of Del Monte*
21 *Forest Development Areas Owned by Pebble Beach Company (Including Development Areas B, C, D,*
22 *F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, U, V, and Quarry), Pebble Beach, Monterey County, California.*
- 23 • Archaeological Consulting. 2013. *Re: Area D, a portion of APN 008-041-009 (letter report). (A*
24 *follow-up to the Preliminary Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of Del Monte Forest Development*
25 *Areas Owned by Pebble Beach Company (Including Development Areas B, C, D, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N,*
26 *O, P, Q, R, U, V, and Quarry), Pebble Beach, Monterey County, California).*
- 27 • ICF Jones & Stokes 2008. *Draft Environmental Impact Report, Monterey County 2007 General*
28 *Plan, Monterey County, California.* September 2008.
- 29 • Levy 1978, Costanoan, in Volume 8 (California) of the *Handbook of North American Indians*, the
30 definitive source for data on California Indian groups.
- 31 • Jones et al. 2007, Chapter 9: The Central Coast: a Midaltitude Milieu, in *California Prehistory*, the
32 most recent compilation of California prehistory by region.

33 Additionally, a background records search was conducted at the Northwest Information Center
34 (NWIC), Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, on September 25, 2014. During this search, the
35 Project site and a 0.25-mile search radius was examined for any previously recorded sites, studies,

1 and other pertinent background data, such as historic maps and directories, which could provide
2 information regarding known cultural resources in and around the Project site.

3 The records search identified no previously recorded cultural resources within the Project site or
4 within 0.25-mile of the Project site.

5 Two studies have covered the Project site.

- 6 • Archaeological Consulting. 1989. *Preliminary Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of Del Monte*
7 *Forest Development Areas Owned by Pebble Beach Company (Including Development Areas B, C, D,*
8 *F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, U, V, and Quarry), Pebble Beach, Monterey County, California.* No
9 resources in or adjacent to the Project site or vicinity were identified during this study.
- 10 • Archaeological Consulting. 2013. *Re: Area D, a portion of APN 008-041-009.* This letter report re-
11 visited the project site (“Area D”) and did not identify any resources in or adjacent to the Project
12 site or vicinity.

13 An additional 20 reports have been conducted within 0.25-mile of the Project site. These reports
14 included a variety of regional overviews, site-specific studies, and archaeological surveys for a
15 variety of projects throughout the greater Monterey County. None of these reports identified any
16 resources near the Project site.

17 Native American Heritage Commission Correspondence

18 ICF contacted the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on September 22, 2014
19 to identify any areas of concern within the Project site that may be listed in the NAHC’s Sacred Land
20 File. The NAHC responded on September 29, 2014 stating that a search of its files failed to indicate
21 the presence of Native American cultural resources in the immediate Project vicinity.

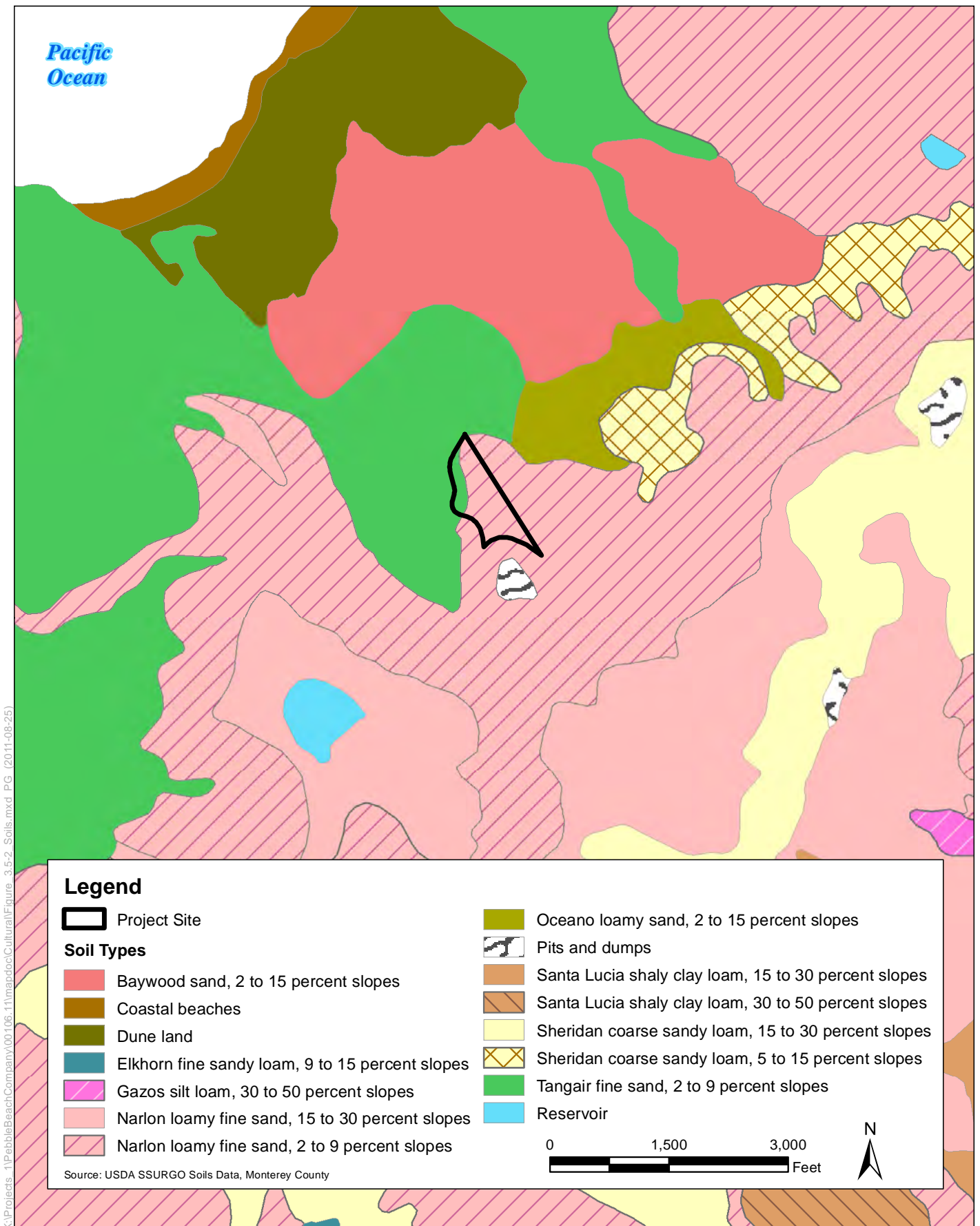
22 Geoarchaeology

23 The Monterey Bay has undergone a series of significant environmental changes since people first
24 entered and inhabited the region. Studies suggest that climatically induced environmental
25 fluctuations, most notably Holocene sea-level rise, were responsible for large-scale landscape
26 changes in the area. These changes repeated episodes of widespread sediment deposition that
27 buried large portions of the landscape once available for human use and occupation. As a result, the
28 region’s archaeological record does not accurately reflect the timing or extent of human use, because
29 older sites tend to have been destroyed, buried, or obscured by Holocene landscape evolution.

30 The types of soils present in the Project site do not indicate the presence of stable, Holocene-era
31 deposits that would be typical of the type expected to potentially contain buried archaeological
32 resources. The soils present in the Project site consist of fine sand and loamy fine sand (**Figure 3.5-**
33 **1**). These types of soils are considered generally unstable, shifting, loose, and blowing. These soils
34 are often deposited by wind and are stabilized by coastal vegetation and generally very permeable.
35 Therefore, there is a low potential to encounter buried archaeological deposits in the Project site,
36 given the types of soils present.

37 Paleontological Resources

38 The potential for presence of paleontological resources is based on the paleontological sensitivity of
39 the geology of the Project site. The geology and soils of the Project site are shown in **Figure 3.5-1**.



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**Figure 3.5-1
Soils in the Project Vicinity**

1 The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) guidelines identify three categories to describe the
2 likelihood that a geologic unit contains significant fossil materials: high potential, low potential, and
3 undetermined potential. The Project site is situated on Narlon loamy fine sand, 2 to 9 percent slopes
4 and Tangair fine sand, 2 to 9 percent slopes. As discussed in the Geoarchaeology discussion
5 presented above, these types of deposits are considered to have a Low Potential (Low Sensitivity) to
6 contain significant, non-renewable paleontological resources (Society of Vertebrate Paleontology
7 Conformable Impact Mitigation Guidelines Committee 2015).

8 **Impacts Analysis**

9 **Assessment Methodology**

10 To assess potential impacts of the Project on cultural resources, the results of the previous cultural
11 resources investigations, including those conducted by Archaeological Consulting (1989, 2013),
12 were reviewed in detail. As discussed above, ICF also conducted archival research at the NWIC,
13 reviewed the information regarding existing conditions in the Project site, and reviewed project
14 maps and the surrounding topography to independently assess the sensitivity for the presence of
15 cultural and paleontological resources within the Project site.

16 **Criteria for Determining Significance**

17 For purposes of this EIR, the County of Monterey considers that the Project would have a significant
18 impact on cultural resources if it would result in any of the following conditions.

19 **A. Historical Resources**

- 20 • Substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA
21 Guidelines Section 15064.5.

22 **B. Archaeological Resources**

- 23 • Substantial adverse change in the significance of a unique archaeological resource pursuant to
24 CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5.

25 **C. Human Remains**

- 26 • Disturbance to any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

27 **D. Paleontological Resources**

- 28 • Destruction of a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.

1 Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

2 A. Historical Resources

3 Impact CR-A1. The Project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of 4 a historical resource. (No impact)

5 As described in the *Environmental Setting* section, there are no buildings or structures on the Project
6 site. Therefore, the Project would not result in an adverse change to the significance of a historical
7 resource and there would be no impacts on historical resources.

8 B. Archaeological Resources

9 Impact CR-B1. Project grading and excavation could result in disturbance to previously 10 undiscovered archaeological resources and cause substantial adverse change in the 11 significance of a unique archaeological resource. (Less than significant)

12 The background records search did not identify any previously recorded cultural resources within
13 0.25-mile of the Project site. However, there is always the possibility that ground-disturbing
14 activities could adversely affect unknown archaeological sites and resources including cultural
15 deposits. The Project would be required to comply with and implement the County's Condition of
16 Approval for cultural resources PD003(A), *Cultural Resources - Inadvertent Discovery*. PD003(A)
17 requires construction activities to be halted within 165 feet of an uncovered archeological,
18 historical, or paleontological resource until a qualified professional archaeologist can evaluate it.
19 Refer to Chapter 2, *Project Description*, for the full text of PD003(A).

20 Because the Project would be required to implement this Condition of Approval, the impact on
21 archaeological resources would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

22 C. Human Remains

23 Impact CR-C1. Project grading and excavation could result in disturbance to previously 24 undiscovered human remains. (Less than significant)

25 Although no cultural resources were identified during the background research conducted for the
26 Project, there is always the possibility that ground-disturbing activities could adversely affect
27 unknown archaeological sites and resources, including human remains. As described under Impact
28 CR-B1, the Project would be required to implement PD003(B), *Human Remains*. PD003(B) requires
29 construction activities to stop if human remains are uncovered at the site and consulting with the
30 County coroner and Native American representatives (if the remains are Native American) to
31 determine the proper treatment of the remains. Refer to Chapter 2, *Project Description*, for the full
32 text of PD003(B).

33 Because the Project would be required to implement this Condition of Approval, this impact would
34 be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

1 **D. Paleontological Resources**

2 **Impact CR-D1. Project grading and excavation could result in disturbance and destruction of** 3 **a previously undiscovered unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic** 4 **feature. (Less than significant)**

5 No known paleontological resources are known to be present at the Project site. According to the
6 SVP guidelines, the Project site is considered to have a low risk of encountering paleontological
7 resources, based on the soils in the Project site. However, there is always the possibility that ground-
8 disturbing activities could adversely affect unknown unique paleontological (e.g., fossil) or unique
9 geologic resources. As described under Impact CR-B1, the Project would be required to implement
10 PD003(A), the County Condition of Approval for cultural resources. Refer to Chapter 2, *Project*
11 *Description*, for the full text of PD003(A). This Conditional of Approval requires construction
12 activities to stop if a cultural, archaeological, historical, or paleontological resource is uncovered at
13 the site. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant, and no additional mitigation is
14 required.