

NATIVE AMERICAN PROJECTS

Statement of Qualifications



BRG Consulting, Inc.
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BRG Firm



For over 40 years, BRG Consulting, Inc. (BRG) has assisted public agencies and private sector clients in complying with local,

state, and federal environmental laws and land use entitlement requirements. BRG handles jobs of all sizes while providing efficient, responsive, personalized service. We are committed to direct project involvement of our principals in every job.



Services Provided

- Environmental Planning & Impact Assessment
- Land Use Planning & Entitlements
- CEQA/NEPA Compliance Documents
- Regulatory Permitting and Agency Coordination
 - California Coastal Commission
 - CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
 - Regional Water Quality Control Boards
 - US Army Corps of Engineers
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service
- Construction & Mitigation Monitoring
- GIS Analysis/Mapping Services
- Visual Simulations

BRG is a multidisciplinary firm providing professional environmental planning, impact assessment and regulatory permitting services from our office located in San Diego, California. We are proud to be a California corporation, a certified small business enterprise (SBE¹), a certified Women Business Enterprise (WBE²), a SANDAG CM Bench Member for Environmental Compliance³, and a SANDAG Prime Contractor for A&E On-Call Services.

BRG has successfully prepared CEQA and NEPA compliance documents and/or obtained regulatory permits for numerous tribal projects in San Diego, Riverside, and Imperial Counties. We have prepared long-range planning documents for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of Indian Health Services, Caltrans/Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, Federal Railroad Authority, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Army Corps of Engineers, County of San Diego, and many cities and special districts.

¹ California Dept. of General Services SB(Micro) # 1674880

² Supplier Clearinghouse Utility Supplier Diversity Program

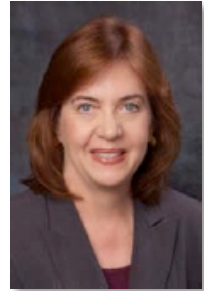
³ SB Certification No. 1674880

BRG Team

Our team is comprised of project managers, environmental analysts, land use planners, GIS and visual resource specialist. When necessary, we supplement our in-house resources with local technical specialty firms with whom we have long-standing relationships.

Patricia A. Butler, Executive President/CEO

Ms. Butler has 40 years of professional experience in land use and environmental planning and environmental impact assessment and documentation. She has supervised BRG's successful provision of as-needed land use and environmental planning services for a variety of clients, including long-term relationships with multiple Southern California tribes. Also, Ms. Butler leads BRG's provision of land use planning and entitlement services. Ms. Butler has extensive experience in public participation programs and presentation of data and findings for complex and controversial projects. Her project experience includes environmental and community impact assessments for urban and infill development, infrastructure projects, major corridor studies, wastewater treatment and solid waste facilities, solar energy facilities and related electrical transmission lines, and land use policy analysis. Her experience includes assistance to agencies in environmental litigation and the provision of expert witness testimony. Ms. Butler has extensive experience in multiple agency liaison for client agencies; management of large multidisciplinary project teams; and the successful processing of various municipal and regulatory permits and land use entitlement actions.



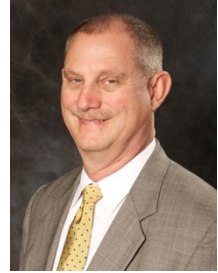
Christina J. Willis, President and Senior Project Manager

Christina (Tina) Willis has 34 years of environmental and project management experience in both the public and private sectors ensuring compliance with state and federal environmental laws. She has effectively managed all project phases from conception through construction with diverse project teams of up to 15 technical specialties. Ms. Willis' projects—some highly complex and controversial—encompass large infrastructure projects (freeways, roads, intersection improvements); pipelines, oil and gas exploration, utility scale renewable energy facilities and transmission lines; residential, commercial, industrial, and mixed-use developments; and large-scale land use planning projects. As a former redevelopment agency planning director and an office head for an international consulting firm, Ms. Willis is a leader in the environmental field. She is routinely solicited by agency staff and project proponents to provide training and expertise on environmental impacts, mitigation, and permitting strategies. Most recently, she managed the preparation of environmental compliance documents for the Riverside-San Bernardino Indian Health Clinic's replacement facilities on the Cahuilla, Soboba and Torres-Martinez Reservations to support Bureau of Indian Affairs' business leases and Department of Indian Health Service's grants.



Erich R. Lathers, Principal Planner

Erich Lathers has 35 years of professional experience preparing documentation in compliance with state and federal environmental laws. He also supervises BRG's extensive regulatory permitting service. His excellent working relationship and high level of credibility with key regulatory agencies such as the California Coastal Commission, Army Corps of Engineers, US Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and California Regional Water Quality Control Boards has saved significant time and costs in developing feasible mitigation solutions and securing federal, state, and local permits.



Mr. Lather's substantial expertise providing environmental and regulatory permitting services is evidenced by his successful completion of projects on eight reservations in Southern California. This experience ensures that he has the knowledge and skills to quickly identify regulatory permitting needs and resource agency requirements.

Cary Lowe, Sr., Project Manager/Regulatory Advisor

Mr. Lowe has 45 years of experience as a land use lawyer and planning consultant representing public agencies, developers, builders, Indian tribes, and non-profit organizations. He holds a Ph.D. in urban planning and has been admitted to the American Institute of Certified Planners. He has taught courses in law and urban planning at the University of Southern California, UCLA, UC Irvine, and UC San Diego. As part of the BRG team, he manages specialized projects and provides regulatory assistance. Mr. Lowe served as vice president for land development of a major real estate development company and has been involved with master-planned communities, in-fill housing and mixed-use projects, energy projects, and commercial developments in communities throughout California. He also is a credentialed mediator affiliated with the Land Use & Environmental Mediation Group of the National Conflict Resolution Center.



Mr. Lowe served for seven years as a Trustee of California Indian Legal Services, and also chaired the organization's Strategic Planning Committee. In that capacity, he was integrally involved in planning and implementing CILS' mission of protecting and advancing the legal rights, self-determination, and governance of California Native American communities.

Rachel V. Rowe, Environmental Planner/GIS Specialist

As an environmental planner, Ms. Rowe's prepares environmental documentation, including Environmental Impact Reports, Mitigated Negative Declarations, Environmental Assessments, and Initial Studies, pursuant to CEQA and NEPA. In addition, Ms. Rowe is BRG's GIS Specialist. She has served as Project Manager, Environmental Planner, and GIS Specialist for all of our work on the Cahuilla, Soboba and Torres-Martinez Reservations.



BRG Approach

For over 40 years, the BRG team has fostered enduring relationships focused on meeting and exceeding the needs of each individual client. Our staff understands the financial and business impacts of environmental compliance and communicates these issues in standard business metrics. We continually strive to provide value and keep projects on schedule by helping to integrate environmental issues into the business decision-making process. Our approach to environmental consulting involves several key aspects:

- Team members selected to meet needs of each project;
- Flexible and responsive project managers and team leads;
- Integration of CEQA/NEPA and regulatory permitting schedules to expedite processing;
- Clearly written environmental compliance documents;
- Ongoing communication with clients, lead agencies, and regulators;
- Implementation of a proven QA/QC program for every project; and
- Creative problem solving.

BRG's creative problem-solving capabilities are shown in the approach we developed in our preparation and subsequent updating of the Rincon Reservation Master Plan. In order to address complex issues regarding permitted land uses, conservation of environmental resources, enhancement of tribal cultural resources, and expanded economic development opportunities, BRG assembled a team with expertise in all these areas and delivered plans which the tribe has been able to use to guide its land use and development decisions. As part of that process, BRG's team utilized sophisticated surveying and focus group techniques to ascertain the priorities and desires of tribal leadership and members.



BRG Services

We recognize that each project’s environmental compliance and permitting needs are varied and complex, and we believe the best solution is to have outstanding talent working to meet your goals. We understand the issues associated with various project types and how to incorporate those issues into regulatory strategies and environmental analyses.

Environmental Services



Environmental Planning

- Due Diligence Reviews
- Opportunity & Constraints Analyses
- Critical Issues Analysis
- Site Screening
- Land Use Entitlements
- Stakeholder Involvement
- Public Outreach
- Public Meeting/
Hearing Support



Environmental Compliance

- CEQA Compliance Documentation
- NEPA Compliance Documentation
- Project Alternatives Analyses
- Agency Consultations
- Visual Simulations
- Land Evaluation and Site Assessments



Regulatory Support

- Construction/Mitigation Monitoring
- Federal, State and Local Permitting
- Permitting Matrix/
Permitting Work Plans
- Permit Applications and Coordination
- Contract Specifications



BRG Projects

The projects on the following pages, managed or staffed by our environmental team members, demonstrate our experience and expertise.

Morongo Indian Health Clinic Replacement Project

BRG is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc. to replace and expand the existing health care facility on the Morongo Indian Reservation in Banning, California. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) will utilize the EA to secure a lease of a ten (10)-acre parcel on the northeast corner of Hathaway Street and Hoffer Street.



Along with the site lease, the Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a replacement health clinic (50,000 SF), landscaping, parking, lighting, an outdoor covered area, and new curbs, gutters and a new driveway from Hoffer Street. Several public roadway and utility improvements are also incorporated into the Proposed Action, including the northward extension and expansion of North Hathaway Street; the eastward extension of North Hoffer Street to Morongo Road; and, the relocation of the existing Morongo Guard Shack and gated Reservation entrance. Additionally, the EA will address demolition of the existing Morongo Indian Health Clinic, while protecting the historic Tribal jail structure.

As part of our efforts, BRG's team is preparing the air quality, biological resources, cultural resources and noise technical analyses. In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are working with the Morongo Tribal Historic Preservation Officer to obtain concurrence on the Area of Potential Effect, potential effects on historic resources, and potential mitigation.

BRG is also responsible for coordinating BIA's staff reviews of the EA, distribution of the EA, and preparation of the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), along with all NEPA-required public notices. The Draft EA along with the Final EA/FONIS are scheduled to be complete in first and second quarters of 2022, respectively.



Health Clinic

Location

Banning, CA
Morongo Indian Reservation

Duration

2021 – on-going

Value

\$63,850

Size

Health Clinic: 42,000 SF
Project Site: 10 acres

Services

- EA for BIA Lease Agreement
- Air Quality, Noise and Biological Resources Reports
- Cultural Resources Assessment and Section 106 Compliance
- FONSI & Public Notices

Key BRG Staff/Roles

- Christina J. Willis, Project Manager
- Erich Lathers, QA/QC
- Rachel Rowe, Environmental Planner

Subconsultants

- Cogstone (Cultural Resources)
- Birdseye Planning Group (Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas, Noise)
- Merkel & Associates (Biology)

Client

Bill Thomsen, COO
Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc.
Phone: (909) 864-1097 ext. 4703
bthomsen@rsbcihi.org

Relevance

- ☑ NEPA Compliance Documentation
- ☑ Section 106 Compliance
- ☑ Off-Site Improvements
- ☑ Technical Assessments



Cahuilla Indian Health Clinic Replacement Project

BRG prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc. to replace a health care facility on the Cahuilla Indian Reservation in Anza, California. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) utilized the EA to secure a lease of a three (3)-acre parcel located south of State Route 371 (SR-371) and east of Puckit Drive. The existing Cahuilla Santa Rosa Health Clinic is located at 39100 Contreras Rd #C, Anza, CA 92539 within leased space in a commercial building.



The Proposed Action included the construction and operation of a replacement health clinic (11,600 SF), a stormwater retention basin, septic system, landscaping, parking, lighting and a new vehicular driveway from SR-371. The purpose of the Proposed Action was to provide improved health care services and assure that comprehensive, culturally acceptable personal and public health services are available and accessible to American Indian people residing in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

The EA was prepared in compliance with NEPA (42 United States Code §4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality Guidelines for Implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), as well as the BIA's NEPA Guidebook (59 Indian Affairs Manual 3-H). Consistent with the BIA's overall efforts to streamline the NEPA process, the EA met the page and time limit requirements for environmental compliance documents established under Executive Order 13807 and Secretarial Order 3355. It evaluated potential impacts to land resources, water resources, air quality, living resources, cultural and paleontological resources, socioeconomic conditions, important farmlands, noise, transportation, resource use patterns, hazardous materials, community infrastructure, and visual resources. Modifications were incorporated in the Proposed Action to ensure that project-related effects would not be significant.

BRG prepared the air quality, biological resources and cultural resources technical analyses in support of the EA. In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we also worked with the Morongo Tribal Historic Preservation Officer to obtain concurrence on the delineation of the Area of Potential Effect and the Finding of No Effect.



Health Clinic Replacement

Location

Anza, CA
Cahuilla Indian Reservation

Duration

2019 – 2020

Value

\$50,775

Size

Health Clinic: 11,600 SF
Project Site: 3 acres

Services

- EA for Bureau of Indian Affairs Lease Agreement
- Air Quality Technical Report
- Biological Resources Report
- Cultural Resources Report
- Section 106 Compliance
- FONSI
- Public Notices

Key BRG Staff/Roles

- Erich Lathers, Principal-in-Charge
- Christina J. Willis, Project Manager
- Rachel Rowe, Environmental Planner

Subconsultants

- Cogstone (Cultural Resources)
- Birdseye Planning Group (Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas)
- Merkel & Associates (Biology)

Client

Bill Thomsen, COO
Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc.
Phone: (909) 864-1097 ext. 4703
bthomsen@rsbcihi.org

Relevance

- ☑ NEPA Compliance Documentation
- ☑ Section 106 Compliance
- ☑ Off-Site Highway Improvements
- ☑ Technical Assessments



Soboba Indian Health Clinic Replacement Project



BRG prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc. to replace a health care facility on the Soboba Indian Reservation in San Jacinto, California. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) utilized the EA to secure a lease of an 8.3-acre project site located immediately south of Soboba View Drive and southwest of Soboba Road (Proposed Action). The EA “tiered-off” the 2013 Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Horseshoe Grande Fee-to-Trust Project. This FEIS evaluated the consequences of the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians’ proposal to convey 34 parcels, 534.91± acres of Tribally-owned property to Federal trust status along with a proposal to develop 55 acres of the Project Site into a destination hotel/casino complex. The Health Clinic site was within the area covered by the FEIS.

The EA was prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 United States Code §4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality Guidelines for Implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), the BIA’s NEPA Guidebook (59 Indian Affairs Manual 3-H), Executive Order 13807, and Secretarial Order 3355.

The clinic and commodities building will provide improved health care services and assure that comprehensive, culturally acceptable personal and public health services are available and accessible to members of federally recognized American Indian and Alaskan Native tribes residing in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. These services are needed to maintain and promote the health status and overall quality of life of eligible persons and their families. The project consists of a single-story replacement health clinic building (44,000 SF), a single-story commodity distribution building (12,300 SF), along with parking for 373 vehicles, landscaping, lighting, utilities, and storm drain facilities. The Project will connect to existing water, sewer, electrical, and natural gas lines within Soboba Trails Road, an existing two-lane private road. Vehicle access to the site will be provided from Soboba Road via Soboba Trails Road.

BRG also prepared the FONSI and the Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft EA. We were also responsible for ensuring the NOA’s publication in the local paper of record. An Air Quality Technical Report for the project also was prepared.



Health Clinic Replacement

Location

San Jacinto, CA
Soboba Indian Reservation

Duration

2019 – 2020

Value

\$42,670

Size

Health Clinic: 44,000 SF
Commodities Building: 12,300 SF
Project Site: 8.3 acres

Services

- EA for Bureau of Indian Affairs Lease Agreement
- Section 106 Compliance
- Air Quality Technical Report
- FONSI
- NOA

Key BRG Staff/Roles

- Erich Lathers, Principal-in-Charge
- Christina J. Willis, Project Manager
- Rachel Rowe, Environmental Planner

Subconsultants

- Birdseye Planning Group (Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas)

Client

Bill Thomsen, COO
Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc.
Phone: (909) 864-1097 ext. 4703
bthomsen@rsbcih.org

Relevance

- ☑ NEPA Compliance Documentation
- ☑ Use of Prior Environmental Documentation
- ☑ Section 106 Compliance
- ☑ Technical Assessments



Torres Martinez Indian Health Clinic Replacement Project



BRG prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the replacement of a health care facility on the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indian Reservation in Thermal, California (May 2017). The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) used the EA to secure a lease of the 2.5-acre Project site located south of 66th Avenue and west of Martinez Road near the Torres-Martinez Tribal Administrative Complex. We also prepared an amendment to the EA and FONSI in June 2019 for the Indian Health Service Department to secure financial assistance for the clinic under the Small Ambulatory Grant Program.

The existing Torres-Martinez Health Clinic, located at 66-735 Martinez Road, was established in 1971 and offers a variety of non-emergency medical and community services within a single story 4,200 SF structure. The replacement clinic consists of an 11,60 SF facility on a 2.5 acre parcel south of 66th Avenue, and west of Martinez Road, near the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indian Administration Complex. The Project also includes parking spaces, landscaping and a pedestrian path to connect the proposed clinic to the adjacent senior housing center.

The Project site is located within the Torres Martinez Historical District (CA-RIV-1292). For this reason, our team prepared a Cultural Resources Monitoring Plan and NAGPRA Plan of Action and a Curation Plan. The purpose of these documents was to ensure that any cultural materials recovered during construction will be respectfully handled and provided to the Torres Martinez Band of Cahuilla Indians. Construction monitoring for the clinic was completed in August 2021. monitoring for the clinic.



Health Clinic Replacement

Location

Thermal, CA
Torres Martinez Reservation

Duration

2016 – On-going

Value

\$135,000

Services

- EA for Bureau of Indian Affairs Lease Agreement
- Amended EA for Indian Health Services Grant
- Section 106 Compliance
- Cultural Resources Survey, Testing, Management Plan, Construction Monitoring
- Tribal

Key BRG Staff/Roles

- Erich Lathers, Principal-in-Charge
- Christina J. Willis, Project Manager
- Rachel Rowe, Environmental Planner

Subconsultants

- ASM Affiliates (Cultural Resource Survey)
- Cogstone Resource Management (Archaeological Testing & Construction Monitoring)
- Birdseye Planning Group (Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas)
- Merkel & Associates (Biology)

Client

Bill Thomsen, COO
Riverside-San Bernardino County
Indian Health, Inc.
Phone: (909) 864-1097 ext. 4703
bthomsen@rsbcihi.org

Relevance

- NEPA Compliance Documentation
- Assistance with Grant Funding
- Section 106 Compliance
- Technical Assessments



Rincon Reservation Comprehensive Master Plan



BRG prepared a comprehensive Master Plan for the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians' Reservation, using an inclusive approach that encouraged tribal member participation and ongoing coordination with the tribal government administration and staff. The first phase of the planning effort included conducting a tribal census and opinion survey, which achieved a high percentage of response from the members, allowing BRG to provide updated population and housing needs forecasts.

BRG prepared a topographic base map from available databases and converted that into a comprehensive Geographic Information System (GIS) database. BRG's multidisciplinary environmental survey of the reservation, also recorded in GIS format, included biological and cultural resources, existing land uses, surface water resources, flood hazard zones, soils, and geological hazards, including steep slopes.

The master planning included an extensive community outreach and involvement program that used focus group meetings with tribal members to identify Master Plan goals, objectives and topical issues. The focus group discussion centered on issues identified in BRG's earlier opinion survey. To facilitate attendance, meetings with tribal members were held on the reservation and in several locations throughout the area. The results were reported to the Tribal Council and were incorporated into the Master Plan.

The resulting Master Plan presented the Land Use Plan and supporting environmental and land use resource information. It includes a detailed identification of Goals and Strategies which outline the Band's vision for the Reservation. Each goal is accompanied by specific strategies, which form the basis for each plan element's Action Plan. The Master Plan includes: an Introduction; Background Information; Goals and Strategies; and elements for Cultural and Natural Resources and Quality of Life, Tribal Resources and Environmental Protection, Utility Services, Roads and Access, Public Safety, Housing, Economic Development, and Implementation & Enforcement.



Reservation Master Plan

Location

Valley Center, CA
Rincon Reservation

Duration

2008 – 2009

Value

\$736,299

Size

4,026 acres

Services

- Master Plan
- Tribal Coordination/ Meetings
- GIS Mapping

Key BRG Staff/Roles

- Patricia A. Butler, Principal-in-Charge
- Cary Lowe, Ph.D., Project Manager

Client

Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians
1 Government Center Lane
Valley Center, CA 92082
Bo Mazzetti, Chairman
bomazzetti@aol.com
(760) 749-1051

Relevance

- Master Planning
- Economic Development
- Census Questionnaire
- Fee-to-Trust Research
- GIS



Rincon Reservation Comprehensive Master Plan Update



Between 2016 and 2017, BRG prepared a update to the Rincon Indian Reservation Master Plan, which BRG originally prepared in 2008. The updated Master Plan emphasized the Rincon Band's long-range vision for the reservation. This vision focused on maintaining the rural ambiance of the reservation while enhancing the quality of life of residents.

Part of this endeavor by the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians was to consolidate and reacquire parcels within the reservation owned by non-members. BRG researched all parcels that had been acquired since 2008 to determine if there were any resources that may be inconsistent with proposed uses and updated all Master Plan figures to include these new parcels.

The Master Plan was also updated to clearly express the Rincon Band's intention to protect natural resources on the reservation, as well as the health and safety of residents. BRG updated the Cultural Resources section to clarify how to protect cultural resources and the Band's heritage throughout the reservation. The Tribal Resources, Waste Management, and Esthetics section was updated to include clearer guidelines for waste disposal and for protection of reservation water resources and environmentally sensitive habitats conducted a census of tribal members, residing both on and off the reservation. The resulting data were important to identifying needs and projecting trends underlying the Master Plan's goals and strategies. BRG also conducted a survey of tribal members, to obtain comprehensive information on issues of concern and priorities for action, focused particularly on economic development, to be addressed in the Master Plan Update.

For the previous Master Plan, BRG prepared and converted the topographic base map into a comprehensive GIS database. In the update, BRG revised figures documenting biological and cultural resources, existing land uses, surface water resources, flood hazard zones, soils, and geological hazards, including steep slopes.



Reservation Master Plan Update

Location

Valley Center, CA
Rincon Reservation

Duration

Sept. 2016 – Nov. 2017

Value

\$130,050

Services

- Master Planning
- GIS

Key BRG Staff/Roles

- Patricia Butler,
Principal-in-Charge
- Cary Lowe,
Project Manager
- Christina J. Willis, QA/QC

Subconsultants

- SRI - Opinion Survey

Client

Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians
1 Government Center Lane
Valley Center, CA 92082
Bo Mazzetti, Chairman
bomazzetti@aol.com
(760) 749-1051

Relevance

- Master Plan Update
- Census Questionnaire and Administration
- GIS



Sycuan Reservation Land Use Master Plan and Tribal EIS



Land Use Master Plan

BRG prepared a Land Use Master Plan for the Sycuan Band of Diegueno Indians' Reservation. The Master Plan was developed in consultation with tribal members and staff and was based on preservation of sensitive environmental and tribal resources, in the context of existing development and facilities on the Reservation. A primary goal of the Master Plan was to estimate the total number of housing units the Tribe will need over a 20-year planning period, based on population and housing projections prepared by BRG. The Master Plan consisted of three sections: a recommended Land Use Plan, Development Opportunities and Constraints, and Population And Housing Projections. The Master Plan was adopted by unanimous vote of the General Council.

Sycuan Parking Structure Tribal Environmental Impact Statement

BRG prepared a Tribal Environmental Impact Statement (TEIS) and obtained regulatory permits for the parking structure. The project consisted of infrastructure improvements required to resolve public safety and flooding issues. Specific improvements included new 2,000-space parking structure with dedicated pedestrian and automobile ingress and egress. The project also included a widening of Casino Way to enhance pedestrian safety, provide a safer access road and flood improvements to safely convey the 100-year flood event. BRG prepared the TEIS in compliance with the Sycuan Band's Environmental Protection Ordinance adopted pursuant to its Class III Gaming Compact with the State of California. In addition, BRG prepared and processed regulatory permits for the project, including an Environmental Protection Agency Section 401 certification and a US Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permit.



Reservation Master Plan and Tribal EIS

Location

El Cajon, CA
Sycuan Reservation

Duration

Master Plan: 2001 – 2002
Tribal EIS: 2005 – 2006

Value

\$129,656

Services

- Land Use Master Plan
- Tribal Environmental Impact Statement
- Permitting

Key BRG Staff/Roles

- Patricia A. Butler,
Project Manager
- Erich R. Lathers,
Principal Planner

Subconsultants

- ASM Affiliates (Cultural and Historical Resources)
- Marquez & Associates (Biological Resources)

Client

Sycuan Band of the
Kumeyaay Nation

Relevance

- Master Planning Effort for Native American Reservation
- Tribal Environmental Impact Statement
- Regulatory Permitting



Viejas Reservation On-Call Environmental Planning/Permitting



For the past 26-years, BRG has assisted the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians in successfully completing numerous development projects critical to their economic independence. BRG also has been instrumental in the planning of more traditional projects, such as the Viejas Creek Wetlands Conservation Area Plan, to restore and preserve wetlands located in the center of the reservation. Our work with the Tribe affords us a thorough working knowledge of the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indian Reservation land use policies, terrain, tribal customs, history, and tradition.

As the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indian's On-Call Environmental Consultant, BRG has completed environment, planning and permitting tasks for 20+ projects for the Tribe. The most significant of these are:

- **Viejas Casino & Hotel Expansions (Phases 1, 2 and 3)** - Tribal Environmental Impact Reports (see detailed description for Phase 3 Hotel)
- **Tenant Leases at Viejas Outlet Center** - Environmental Assessment (EA)/Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)
- **Viejas Casino and Turf Club Parking Garage** – TEIR, EA/FONSI for 60-story parking structure (1,000 spaces) and pedestrian overpass
- **Viejas Creek Wetland Restoration** – EA/FONSI for Wetland Restoration Plan and 404 Permitting
- **Water and Sewer Master Plan** - EA/FONSI
- **Viejas Creek Conservation Area Plan.**
- **Viejas Water Reclamation Plant** - Environmental Constraints Analysis.
- **Fee-to-Trust Annexations** – Various tribal housing and economic development activities.



Environmental Planning/Permitting

Location

Alpine, CA
Viejas Reservation

Duration

1995 – Present (26 Years)

Value

\$1,298,000

Services

- Environmental Documents
- Regulatory Permitting
- Environmental Constraints

Key BRG Staff/Roles

- Patricia Butler,
Principal-in-Charge
- Erich Lathers,
Project Manager
- Christina J. Willis,
Project Manager

Subconsultants

- ASM Affiliates (Section 106 Consultation Report)
- Merkel & Associates (Habitat Maintenance Monitoring)

Client

Tuari Bigknife, General Counsel
Viejas Enterprises
Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians
1 Viejas Grade Road,
(619) 659-5164
tbigknife@viejas.com

Relevance

- Environmental Planning
- Regulatory Permitting
- Fee-to-Trust Annexations



Viejas Casino & Resort Phase 3 Project (Hotel)



In 1999, the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians (Tribe), a federally recognized Indian tribe, and the State of California (State) entered into a Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact (Compact) pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988. Amended in 2004 and 2014, the Compact requires the preparation of a tribal environmental impact report (TEIR) to analyze potentially significant off-reservation environmental impacts of any new, renovated, expanded or modified gaming facility.

BRG prepared the TEIR for the Viejas Casino & Resort – Phase 3 for the Tribe. The Project consisted of construction and operation of a 170 room, five-story hotel (215,000 SF), as well as demolition and reconstruction of a portion of the existing casino. A new bus terminal and bus drop off area were constructed near the Casino’s northwest entrance and a new casino walk was added to provide access to the new hotel.

In addition to preparing the TEIR, BRG prepared all TEIR required notices including the Notice of Preparation, Notice of Availability (NOA), and Notice of Completion, and filed them with the State Clearinghouse, the State Gaming Agency, the California Department of Justice, the Office of the Attorney General and the County of San Diego. BRG also distributed the TIER and published the NOA in a newspaper of general circulation. Additionally, BRG facilitated government-to-government negotiations with the County as required by the Compact.

The Project site is located in the vicinity of Viejas Creek, an area designated as critical habitat for the federally endangered arroyo toad and with suitable habitat for the federally endangered least Bell’s vireo and southwestern willow flycatcher. BRG prepared the Biological Technical Memorandum which identified avoidance measures to ensure that the Project would not result in significant direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts to these sensitive biological resource.

BRG was able to resolve groundwater issues by working closely with the County’s groundwater specialist and the Tribe’s Public Works Division. Although the TEIR found no significant off-reservation environmental effects would occur and no mitigation measures were required, various avoidance and minimization measures were included to ensure consistency with the Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of San Diego and the Tribe.

BRG ensured the TEIR was prepared in accordance with the updated Tribal Compact and facilitated successful negotiations with the County of San Diego, enabling a smooth public review process and simple revisions to the Intergovernmental Agreement. The TEIR was completed on time and within budget.



Casino & Resort

Location

Alpine, CA
Viejas Reservation

Duration

February 2016 – October 2016

Value

\$127,700

Services

- Tribal Environmental Impact Report
- Biological Technical Memorandum
- Visual Impact Analysis

Key BRG Staff/Roles

- Patricia Butler, Principal-in-Charge
- Christina Willis, QA/QC

Subconsultants

- LLG Engineers (Traffic)
- Birdseye Planning Group (Air Quality and Noise)
- Environmental Navigation Services (Water Supply)

Client

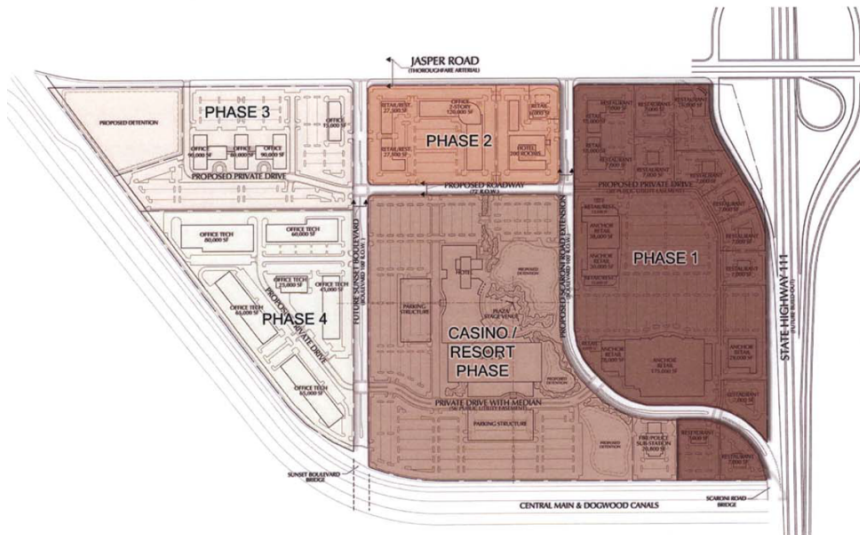
Tuari Bigknife, General Counsel
Viejas Enterprises
Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians
1 Viejas Grade Road,
(619) 659-5164
tbigknife@viejas.com

Relevance

- ☑ Environmental Analysis for Economic Development Projects
- ☑ Public Meetings and Govt-to-Govt Negotiation Support
- ☑ Thorough knowledge of, and experience with, Gaming Compacts and the preparation of environmental documents consistent with the policies and purposes of CEQA and NEPA



111 Calexico Place Specific Plan EIR



BRG prepared an environmental impact report for the 111 Calexico Place Specific Plan, a 232-acre site in the City of Calexico. The proposed project includes a Class III Tribal Gaming Casino Facility and Hotel, surrounded by retail, restaurant, office, and public facilities uses.

The project required discretionary actions by the Calexico Planning Commission and City Council, including approval of a Specific Plan, General Plan Amendment, Tentative Tract Map, Development Design Approval, and a Development Agreement between the City of Calexico and the applicant (Hallwood Calexico Investments, LLC). The applicant was a joint venture comprised of the Viejas Band and a private party. The casino complex would be owned and operated by the Manzanita Band. BRG supported the Law Office of Cary Lowe in obtaining the required project land use approvals.

A fee-to-trust annexation to tribal lands of the Manzanita Band was proposed for 60 acres of the 232-acre site for Class III gaming, subject to approval by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. BRG prepared a separate environmental impact statement for the Bureau of Indian Affairs proceedings.



Specific Plan EIR

Location
Calexico, CA

Duration
2009

Value
\$690,600

Size
232 Acres

Services

- Environmental Impact Report
- Environmental Impact Statement
- Entitlements Support

Key BRG Staff/Roles

- Erich Lathers, Principal-in-Charge
- Cary Lowe, JD, Ph.D., Land Use Entitlements

Subconsultants

- Giroux and Associates (Air Quality and Noise)
- LLG Engineers (Traffic)

Client

Hallwood Calexico Investments, LLC (incl. Viejas Band)

City of Calexico
Planning and Development Dept.
608 Heber Ave.
Calexico, CA 92231

Relevance

- ☑ Environmental Planning
- ☑ Entitlement Permitting
- ☑ Economic Development



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