
APPENDIX B: State Historic Preservation Office Consultation



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
30TH SPACE WING (AFSPC)

DEC 18 2015

Lieutenant Colonel Ryan J. Novotny
Commander, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron
1172 Iceland Ave
Vandenberg AFB CA 93437-6011

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Parks and Recreation
Office of Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento CA 94296-0001

Dear Ms. Polanco

The 30th Space Wing of the United States Air Force, Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB), is proposing to perform maintenance activities at the San Antonio Road West Bridge, which serves as an alternate missile transport route to North VAFB launch facilities (Figure 1). The bridge was constructed in 1969 and repaired in 1983; repairs included the installation of riprap and gabion baskets underneath the bridge. The gabion baskets and riprap are currently in disrepair and vegetation growth has the potential to impede water flow under the bridge. The creek banks surrounding the bridge are also eroding, and with subsequent rain, there is potential for severe erosion of the channel bottom which would undermine the substructure of the bridge. In the event that the bridge is compromised, there is potential for loss of life, and access to North VAFB would be greatly impeded.

VAFB has determined that the proposed San Antonio Road West Bridge Erosion Protection System Maintenance Project is an undertaking subject to compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800. With this letter and attachments, VAFB is initiating consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in accordance with 36 CFR 800.3. VAFB also identified the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians (SYBCI) as a consulting party. This letter is being submitted concurrently to the SYBCI. Any substantive comments received will be forwarded to the SHPO.

Project Description

The proposed undertaking encompasses four major components: channel clearing and herbicide application, sediment removal, gabion basket repairs, and installation of an earthen berm to divert water (Figures 2 and 3). In addition, the existing channel may be diverted or blocked if necessary to facilitate repairs. Equipment and vehicles would be staged in two areas, one on the south side of San Antonio Road West and the other on the north.

Channel clearing would involve hand trimming of vegetation with stems 2 inches in diameter or larger to within 3 inches of the ground surface and application of herbicide to prevent regrowth. Annual herbicide treatment and/or vegetation removal by hand may also be necessary. To remove sediment deposition in the creek bed and on the gabion baskets, a bobcat and container would be lowered into the creek bed via a crane staged on the bank. Sediment would be placed into the container by the bobcat and by hand crews with shovels. Once full, the container would be lifted from the creek bed by the crane and the sediment deposited into a dump truck. This process would continue until all excess sediment is removed from the creek bed and

gabions. The sediment would then be transported to the landfill. Once the gabion baskets are visible, the necessary repairs will include replacing wire fabric and adding rock fill, as necessary. The final project component consists of the installation of an earthen berm in a low-lying area of an adjacent agricultural field. The berm would be constructed using heavy equipment, and would divert surface water runoff away from San Antonio Creek, thus reducing bank erosion and reduce the pollutant load in the creek.

Area of Potential Effects

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking encompasses a total of approximately 2 acres, which consists of the creek bed and banks under and surrounding the bridge, two staging areas, and an area of earthen berm construction in the adjacent agricultural field (Figures 2 and 3). Ground disturbing activities include sediment removal in the creek bed (0.1 acres), staging areas (0.18 total acres), and earthen berm construction (0.3 acres). The maximum depth of ground disturbance would occur in the creek channel to a depth of approximately one meter. Based on historic aerial photographs, the agricultural field has been in production for at least the last 50 years, with a plow zone of approximately one foot.

Identification of Historic Properties

A records search was completed of the cultural resources maps, site records, and reports at VAFB. The APE was previously inventoried for cultural resources during the basewide cultural resources survey in 1998 by Chambers Group, Inc., and Science Applications International Corporation. The area was intensively surveyed in transects spaced no more than 15 meters apart. Cut banks were visually examined for exposed archaeological deposits. Due to the age of the initial survey, the APE was resurveyed in October 2015 by VAFB cultural resources staff, using meandering transects and visual examination of cut banks and eroded areas. No historic properties were identified as a result of both inventories. The bridge, built in 1969, is less than 50 years old and is categorically not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Finding of Project Effects

VAFB has determined that the proposed undertaking will result in no historic properties affected. VAFB requests SHPO concurrence on the delineation of the APE and our finding of no historic properties affected. If there is no objection to these findings by the SHPO, VAFB has fulfilled its Section 106 responsibilities for this undertaking and no further consultation is required. If the SHPO objects to these findings, we understand that further consultation will be necessary. Additionally, if project implementation results in a discovery during construction, VAFB will reopen Section 106 consultation.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Tara Hoffmann at (805) 606-2839 or via e-mail at tara.hoffmann@us.af.mil. Thank you for your assistance with this undertaking.

Sincerely

RYAN J. NOVOTNY, Lt Col, USAF
Commander

Attachments:

Figure 1 Project Location

Figure 2 Overview Photographs

Figure 3 Area of Potential Effects

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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January 14, 2016

Reply in Reference To: USAF_2015_1228_001

Lt. Col. Ryan J. Novotny
Commander, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron
Vandenberg Air Force Base
1172 Iceland Avenue
Vandenberg AFB, CA 93437-6012

Re: Section 106 Consultation for San Antonio Road West Bridge Erosion Protection System
Maintenance, Vandenberg AFB

Dear Lt. Col. Novotny:

The United States Air Force (USAF) is initiating consultation regarding their efforts to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470f), as amended, and its implementing regulation found at 36 CFR Part 800.

The USAF is proposing to conduct maintenance and anti-erosional measures on the banks and creek bed below the San Antonio Road West Bridge at Vandenberg Air Force Base. Activities include channel clearing, sediment removal, rip-rap installation, gabion basket repairs, and the construction of an earthen berm in an adjacent agricultural field.

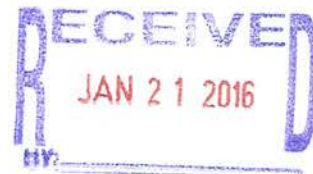
The results of tribal notification, a pedestrian survey and historic property identification efforts determined that no historic properties are located within the undertaking's area of potential effects. The USAF is requesting SHPO concurrence with their determination of no historic properties affected. After reviewing the information provided, including maps and photographs, SHPO has the following comments:

- 1) Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(a)(1), the USAF's determination of the area of potential effects appears sufficient to take the undertaking's effects on historic properties into account.
- 2) SHPO concurs with the USAF's finding of no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1). Please be advised that under certain circumstances, such as an unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, you may have future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact SHPO staff historian Ed Carroll at (916) 445-7006 / Ed.Carroll@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer





DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
30TH SPACE WING (AFSPC)

JUL 23 2018

Lieutenant Colonel Jason M. Aftanas
Commander, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron
1172 Iceland Ave
Vandenberg AFB CA 93437-6011

Ms. Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Parks and Recreation
Office of Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento CA 94296-0001

Dear Ms. Polanco

The 30th Space Wing of the United States Air Force, Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB), proposes willow pole plantings and container planting of riparian plants within a 12-acre field along the south side of San Antonio Creek as mitigation in support of the San Antonio Road West Bridge Maintenance Project. The proposed Willow Riparian Mitigation Area Project (hereafter, Project) is situated in the North Base area of VAFB in Santa Barbara County, California.

Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer regarding the San Antonio Road West Bridge Maintenance Project activities was carried out in 2015 (OHP file reference USAF_2015_1228_001). Since then, the 12-acre Willow Riparian Mitigation Area has been added for the purpose of mitigation and riparian habitat restoration. VAFB has determined that the supplemental action to the San Antonio Road West Bridge Maintenance Project constitutes an undertaking subject to compliance with Section 306108 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. VAFB will comply with Section 306108 using the implementing regulations [36 CFR Part 800]. With this letter and its attachment, VAFB is initiating consultation with you.

VAFB delineated the Area of Potential Effects (APE) and performed a reasonable and good faith effort to identify historic properties within the APE pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(a)-(d). No cultural resources were encountered within or adjacent to the APE during this study. Details of the investigation are provided in the attachment.

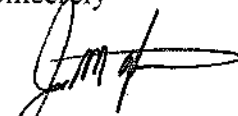
VAFB presents the following federal agency determinations for concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Officer:

- a. The APE for the *Willow Riparian Mitigation Area* is adequately delineated;
- b. No historic properties are known to exist within the Project APE; and
- c. The undertaking will have *no effect* on any known historic properties.

Pending concurrence with our above determinations, VAFB has reached a finding of *No Effect* to historic properties for this undertaking. If you do not object to this finding, VAFB has fulfilled its Section 306108 responsibilities for this undertaking and no further consultation is required. If project implementation results in a discovery during project implementation, VAFB would re-open consultation.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Christopher Ryan, Cultural Resources Management, at 805-605-0748 or via e-mail at christopher.ryan.7@us.af.mil. Thank you for your assistance with this undertaking.

Sincerely



JASON M. AFTANAS, Lt Col, USAF
Commander

Attachment:
Supplemental Identification of Historic Properties



**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Lisa Ann L. Mangat, *Director*

Julianne Polanco, State Historic Preservation Officer

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August 16, 2018

Reply in Reference To: USAF_2015_1228_001

LtCol Jason Aftanas
Commander, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron
1172 Iceland Avenue
Vandenberg AFB, CA 93437-6011

Re: Section 106 for Amendment to San Antonio Road West Bridge Erosion Protection System Maintenance, Vandenberg AFB

Dear LtCol Aftanas:

The United States Air Force (USAF) is continuing consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) regarding their effort to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (54 U.S.C. 306108), as amended, and its implementing regulation found at 36 CFR Part 800.

Having previously received the SHPO's concurrence with their finding of no historic properties affected, the USAF have amended the undertaking's APE to include the 12 acre Willow Riparian Mitigation Area. The USAF are proposing to introduce willow pole plantings and container plantings and perform assorted ground disturbing activities within the specified mitigation area.

No concerns over historic property identification efforts occurred during Tribal consultation. Furthermore, the results of a records search and pedestrian archeological survey were negative leading the USAF to conclude that the undertaking's amendment does not alter the original finding of no historic properties affected. After reviewing the USAF's supporting documentation, the SHPO concurs that no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1) remains an appropriate determination. Be advised that that under certain circumstances, such as an unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, the USAF may have future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800.

August 16, 2018
LtCol Aftanas
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USAF_2015_1228_001

If you have any questions or concerns, contact Historian Ed Carroll at (916) 445-7006 or Ed.Carroll@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Polanco', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer