

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

## Guapiabit Serrano Homeland

### **THIS NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION CONTAINS RESTRICTED INFORMATION**

Archaeological and traditional property locations are considered confidential and public access to such information is restricted by law (Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act; Section 9(a) of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act; Executive Order 13007; Section 6254.10 of the California State Government Code). The following summary of the description and significance of the above-named resource is available for public access.

The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, Highland, California, has submitted a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the *Guapiabit*-Serrano Homeland Archeological District in order to (1) establish public recognition of the strong and on-going cultural connection between the District and the Serrano people, (2) honor the generations of Serrano ancestors who lived at this location within Serrano traditional lands, and (3) promote preservation of the scientific information that the District contains, and provide for the dissemination of that information to the public, as well as the Serrano themselves.

The District consists of 6074 acres and includes 47 known archeological sites scattered along the West Fork of the Mojave River and its tributaries within the Summit Valley in San Bernardino County, California. The District represents a Serrano-named area, *Guapiabit*, that is a core component of the prehistoric and ethnographic traditional homeland of the Serrano People: Included within the District are large village sites with the remains of many residential features, remains of a ceremonial structure, campsites, plant gathering, animal hunting, and processing locations, as well as stone-tool quarrying and manufacturing locations. The natural features of the District, such as the West Fork of the Mojave River, vegetation, fauna, and views of distant mountain slopes and peaks have additional cultural significance to the Serrano People and add an Ethnographic Landscape component to the District. The District is Eligible for nomination under National Register criterion A for the role it has played and still plays as a vital part of the Serrano homeland for over 3500 years and for specific events that occurred within the District until it was abandoned in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The District is also Eligible for nomination under National Register Criterion D because the archeological sites within the District have yielded and have the potential to yield information important to regional scientific research domains centered around chronology, settlement patterns, social and political organization, tool technology, trade and transportation networks, cosmology, subsistence, and demographic, cultural, and technological changes in the aftermath of Spanish mission-building and the recruitment of Serrano to San Gabriel and San Fernando missions. The District retains integrity of setting, location, relationship of its components to each other and the natural environment, design, materials, and workmanship (as seen in the archaeological features and artifact assemblages) feeling, and association within the Summit Valley. The District is nominated at a State level of significance and its period of significance is from about 2000 BC to AD 1866.