

# *Archeological Study*

# SAGEBRUSH CONSULTANTS, L.L.C.

Cultural Resources • Environmental Studies • Historic Preservation



May 22, 2001

Dave Winters  
Envirocare of Utah, Inc.  
46 West Broadway, Suite 116  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

RE: Class III Cultural and Paleontological Resources Survey for Alternative 1 - 320 acres, the N½ of Section 5, T. 2S., R. 11W.; **Service Agreement No. EC017996-CA**  
Sagebrush Consultants Cultural and Paleontological Resources Report No. 1200  
Utah State Antiquities Permit No. U-01-SJ-0212p

Dear Mr. Winters;

This letter serves as a report on an intensive level (Class III) cultural resource inventory for Alternative 1 on private land in an unincorporated portion of Tooele County, Utah, as proposed by Envirocare of Utah, Inc. (Envirocare), Salt Lake City. Envirocare requested that Sagebrush Consultants L.L.C. (Sagebrush) conduct the inventory within the area of potential effects (APE) for Alternative 1, on 320 acres of land in the north half of Section 5, T. 2S., R. 11W., on USGS 7.5' Quadrangle Aragonite, Utah (1973) (Figure 1). There is a survey cap, Clive, at the northwestern corner of the section. The area is bounded on the south and east by a barbed wire and angle iron post fence and a chain link fence located about 10 feet inside of the section half. A paved road lies just inside of the section on its west side. A chain link fence lies near the east side of this road within Section 5. A graded gravel road lies near the northern boundary of the section and is paralleled by an overhead power line.

The Alternative 1 parcel is located in a remote portion of Tooele County, adjacent to a low-level hazardous waste dump on private land which is administered by Envirocare. The adjacent property, to the north, contains covered low-level hazardous waste and various environment testing stations for the facility.

Prior to the fieldwork, a cultural records search for the area was conducted by Donald D. Southworth on April 26, 2001 at the Utah State Historic Preservation Office, in Salt Lake City. This included a file search for recorded cultural resource sites and historic buildings within and near the project area. There have been six cultural resource inventories done within a mile of the current project area.

In 1981, Archaeological Environmental Research Corporation (AERC) surveyed all of Section 32, in T. 1S., R. 11W., just north of the current project area for Dames and Moore, Golden, Colorado (Weder and Hauck 1981). Only one isolated find, four shards of amethyst glass from an unknown vessel, were found.

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Also, in 1981, Cultural Resource Management Services of the Museum of Peoples and Cultures, Brigham Young University, surveyed a proposed power line corridor for the Utah Power and Light Company (Jacklin 1981). The portion of the right-of-way near the current project area ran through the center of Section 32, in T. 1S., R. 11W., south into Section 5, in T. 2S., R. 11W. No cultural resources were observed within a mile of the current project area.

In 1989, the Bureau of Land Management, Salt Lake District (BLM-SLD), conducted a sample inventory of two parcels of land for a proposed land exchange between the Bureau of Land Management and Aptus, to build a hazardous waste incinerator (Smith 1989). The western parcel included all of Sections 30 and 31, T. 1S., R. 11W., however, only five acres were surveyed intensively in the northern portion of Section 30. No cultural resources were found in the western parcel. The BLM-SLD also inventoried a sample parcel in the southern eighth of Section 32, T. 1S., R. 11W., for the USPCI/Envirocare Land Exchange (Christensen 1989). No cultural resources were found in this parcel. The other sample parcels were located more than a mile from the current project area.

In 1990, the BLM-SLD inventoried the Air Force Fiber Optic Line for Hill Air Force Base, through the western portion in Section 32, in T. 1S., R. 11W., and Sections 5 and 8 in T. 2S., R. 11W., and extending north and south from that area (Christensen 1990). No cultural resources were found.

In 1991, Nielson Consulting Group of Orem, Utah inventoried for a proposed haul road from I-80 to the Wendover Bombing and Gunnery Range (Nielson 1991). A portion of this project ran down the western edge of the current project area. It extended north through Section 32 in T. 1S., R. 11W., to I-80, and south through Sections 5 and 8, in T. 2S., R. 11W., for a total of more than nine miles. One isolated artifact (IF-2) was located within a mile of the current project area. IF-2 consisted of an evaporated milk can and flatted tobacco tin. They also relocated three of the four shards of amethyst glass found by AERC and determined that they were the remains of a cylindrical bottle of unknown size and use.

The National Register of Historic Places was also consulted and no sites were listed within a mile of the survey area. A paleontological search was done for the area by Martha Hayden, Paleontological Assistant, Utah Geological Survey, Salt Lake City. She said that no paleontological localities have been recorded and that this project should have no impact on paleontological resources (Hayden 2001). Martha Hayden's comments are attached to this letter.

The project area is in the Great Salt Lake Desert within the Basin and Range Province, within the Western Utah geologic division (Hintze 1980). The project area lies in the bottom of Ripple Valley on thick alluvial deposits. The block area is located at the eastern edge of the Great Salt Lake Desert. The Cedar Mountains are east of the project area and the Grayback Hills lie to the north. The nearest permanent natural water source is a spring more than 15 miles

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south-southeast of the project area, in the Cedar Mountains. The elevation of the project area is 4270 to 4277 feet a.s.l.

The area vegetation consists of members of the Shadscale Community, within the Upper Sonoran Life Zone. The plants include shadscale (Atriplex convertifolia), four-wing saltbush (Atriplex canescens), greasewood (Sarcobatus vermiculatus), snakeweed (Gutierrezia sp.), cheatgrass (Bromus tectorum), peppergrass (Lepidium sp.), and unidentified annuals which were sparsely spread throughout the project area.

The project was undertaken by Michael R. Polk and Ann S. Polk between May 11 and 12, 2001, under the authority of Utah State Antiquities Permit No. U-01-SJ-0212p. It included the file search at the Utah SHPO and a pedestrian survey of the parcel of land designated Alternative 1. The proposed project area was walked in parallel north-south swaths, spaced no more than 15 meters apart. The parcel is delineated by a section corner marker (Clive), paved and gravel roads, an overhead power line, several fences and a posted fiber optic line right-of-way which runs north-south at the western edge of the section. Part of the project area has been recently disturbed by the borrowing of clay from a small area in the NENE of Section 5 and the laying down of a gravel pad in the NWNE of the section. All disturbed areas were examined for possible subsurface cultural and paleontological deposits.

No paleontological, prehistoric, or historic resources were found during the survey. There is little probability that paleontological resources will be found in the area (Hayden 2001). Therefore, I recommend cultural resources clearance for the project area.

This investigation was conducted with techniques considered adequate for locating and evaluating those cultural and paleontological resources that are available for visual inspection and that may be adversely impacted by the proposed development project. However, should such resources be located during construction, a report should be made immediately to the State Archaeologist, Utah State Historic Preservation Office, Division of State History, Salt Lake City, and/or the Utah State Paleontologist, Utah Geological Survey, Salt Lake City.

Sincerely,



Ann S. Polk  
Senior Archaeologist/Owner

Attachment

## REFERENCES CITED

Christensen, Diana

- 1989 [Summary Report of Cultural Resources Inspection for] *USPCI/Envirocare Land Exchange*. Bureau of Land Management, Salt Lake District, Salt Lake City. Utah State Permit No. U-89-BL-0521b. Ms. on file, Utah State Historic Preservation Office, Salt Lake City.
- 1990 [Summary Report of Cultural Resources Inspection for] *Air Force Fiber Optic Line for Hill Air Force Base*. Bureau of Land Management, Salt Lake District, Salt Lake City. Utah State Permit No. U-90-BL-0158b,m. Ms. on file, Utah State Historic Preservation Office, Salt Lake City.

Hayden, Martha

- 2001 Personal communication. [Paleontological consultation letter dated May 21, 2001 from Martha Hayden, Paleontological Assistant with the Utah Geological Survey, Salt Lake City, to Sagebrush Consultants, L.L.C., regarding the potential for paleontological localities for the Envirocare Survey, in T. 2S., R. 11W., Section 5 and T. 1S., R. 11W., Section 29.] Letter on file at Sagebrush Consultants, L.L.C., Ogden, Utah.

Hintze, Lehi F.

- 1980 *Geologic Map of Utah*. Utah Geological and Mineral Survey, Salt Lake City.

Jacklin, Marian

- 1981 A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Sandia Laboratories Distribution Power Line, Tooele County, Utah. Cultural Resource Management Services of the Museum of Peoples and Cultures, Brigham Young University, Orem, Utah. Utah State Permit No. U-81-BC-0089b. Ms. on file, Utah State Historic Preservation Office, Salt Lake City.

Nielsen, Asa S.

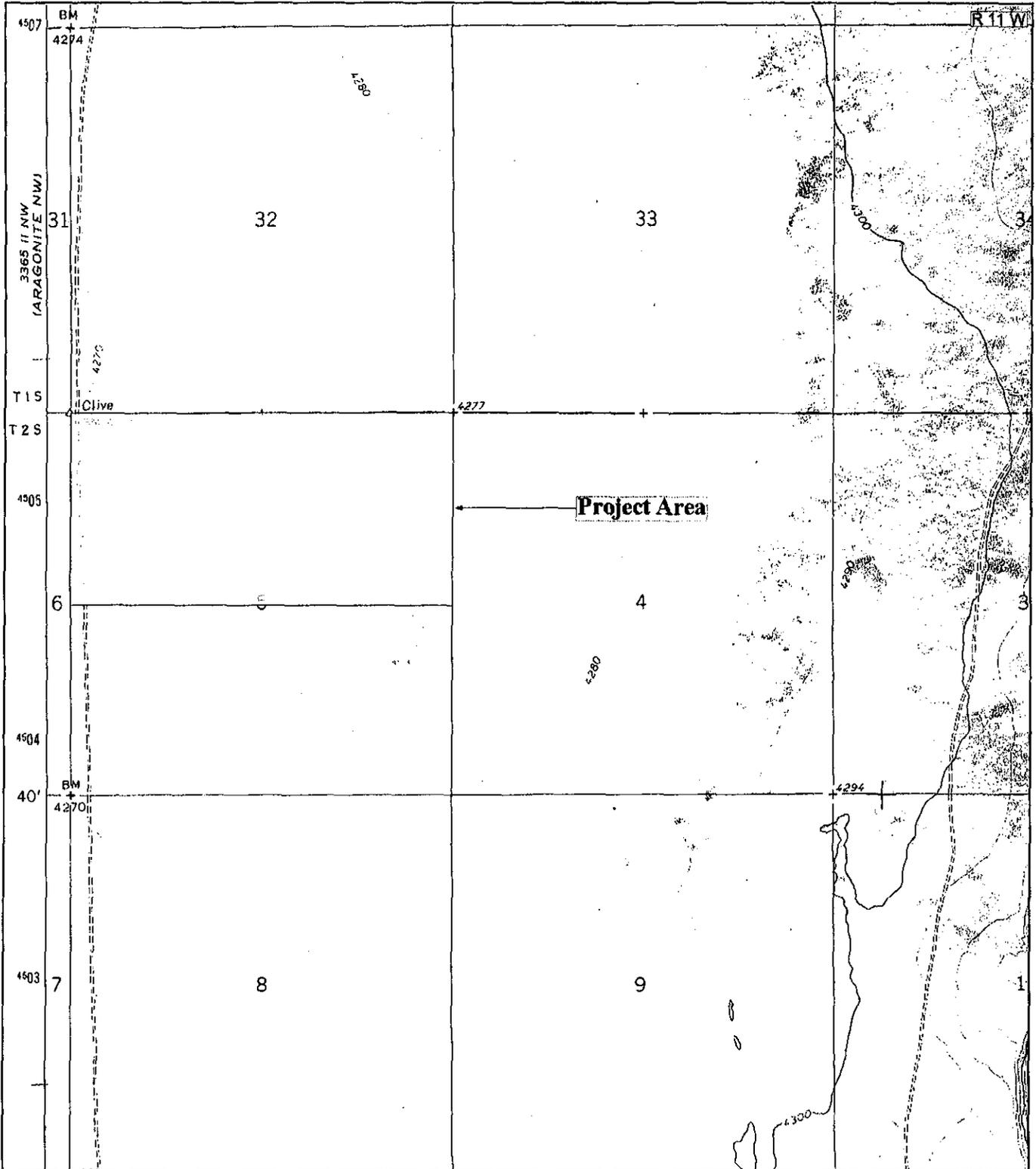
- 1991 *A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Proposed USPSI Haul Road from I-80 to Wendover Bombing and Gunnery Range, Tooele County, Utah*. Nielson Consulting Group, Orem, Utah. Utah State Permit No. U-91-NP-0695b,s. Ms. on file, Utah State Historic Preservation Office, Salt Lake City.

Smith, Shelley J.

- 1989 [Summary Report of Cultural Resources Inspection for] *Aptus Exchange 2*. Bureau of Land Management, Salt Lake District, Salt Lake City. Utah State Permit No. U-89-BL-0106b. Ms. on file, Utah State Historic Preservation Office, Salt Lake City.

Weder, Dennis G., and Hauck, F. R.

- 1981 *Cultural Resource Inventory of One Square Mile in the Clive Locality of Tooele County, Utah*. Archeological-Environmental Research Corporation, Bountiful, Utah. Utah State Permit No. U-81-AF-0873s. Ms. on file, Utah State Historic Preservation Office, Salt Lake City.



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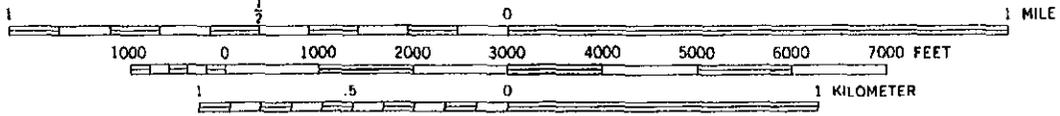


Figure 1. Location of the project area for Envirocare of Utah, Inc.'s Alternative 1. Taken from USGS 7.5' Quadrangle Aragonite, Utah (1973).