

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



**Ames Research Center**  
Moffett Field, California 94035

April 13, 2017

Valentin Lopez, Chairperson  
Amah Mutsun Tribal Band  
P.O. Box 5272  
Galt, CA 95632

**Subject:** Notification of Draft Programmatic Agreement and Section 106 Consultation Opportunity as an Interested Party for Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, California

Dear Chairperson Lopez:

In support of its responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has proposed the establishment of a Programmatic Agreement among NASA, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) regarding the management of facilities, infrastructure, and sites at Ames Research Center (ARC) at Moffett Field, California. Please find below a brief summary of a recent archaeological resources investigation conducted for ARC and a link to the current Draft Programmatic Agreement. A map showing the location of ARC is provided as Attachment A.

#### ***Archaeological Resources Investigations at ARC***

An Archaeological Resources Study consisting of a desktop survey of archival resources and geoarchaeological assessment was conducted in 2016. A Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File Check dated April 27, 2016, was negative for sacred sites. The record search conducted at the Northwest Information Center indicated that eight archaeological resources were previously recorded within the study area (CA-SCL-14, 15, -16, -17, -18, -19, -20/H, -23). These prehistoric surface sites were originally recorded in 1912, have been investigated numerous times, and have not been relocated since the mid-1900s. The results of the literature review indicated that 51.16 percent (944 of 1845 acres) of ARC has been assessed for archaeological resources by previous investigations, with 49.19 percent of the ARC boundary surveyed (907.56 of 1845 acres) and 6.60 percent (121.88 of 1845 acres) included in subsurface testing programs. Furthermore, extensive subsurface testing (88 five-by-2 foot BTUs and 18 core samples) in the vicinity of CA-SCL-23 suggests that the area no longer contains any prehistoric

archaeological component, having been removed through both agricultural and early military development. In addition, a review of existing soils data and recent geotechnical studies conducted within and in the vicinity of the study area determined that surface soils in ARC are not conducive to human occupation and that the entire study area is generally considered to have a low geoarchaeological potential (i.e., a low potential for prehistoric archaeological resources buried through natural processes).

***Draft Programmatic Agreement***

Although no prehistoric, cultural, or traditional historic properties have been identified at ARC, and no Federally Recognized Tribes are associated with this location, the NAHC indicated that your organization may have knowledge of the potential for archaeological sites at ARC. We invite you to review the Draft Programmatic Agreement and participate in the process as an Interested Party. The Draft Programmatic Agreement is posted on the NASA Historic Preservation Office website provided below.

[https://historicproperties.arc.nasa.gov/downloads/section106\\_arc\\_draft\\_pa\\_20170310.pdf](https://historicproperties.arc.nasa.gov/downloads/section106_arc_draft_pa_20170310.pdf)

If you wish to participate as an Interested Party, please notify us in writing within 14 days from the receipt of this letter. Please contact me at [keith.venter@nasa.gov](mailto:keith.venter@nasa.gov) or at (650) 604-6408, if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Keith Venter  
Historic Preservation Officer



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**cc:**

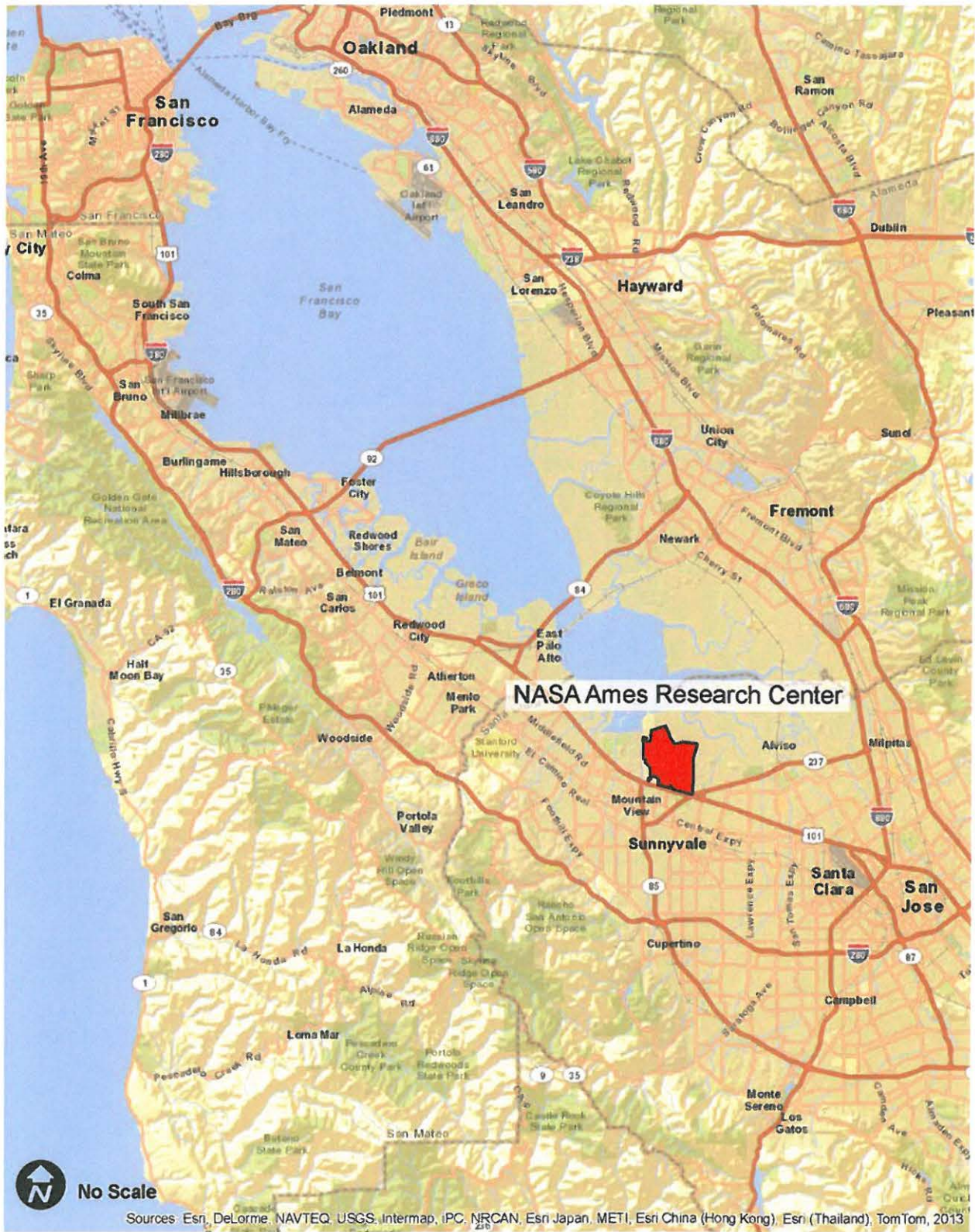
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Valentin Lopez, Amah Mutsun Tribal Band  
Irenne Zwierlein, Amah Mutsun Tribal Band of Mission San Juan Bautista  
Ann Marie Sayers, Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan  
Rosemary Cambra, Muwekma Ohlone Indian Tribe of the San Francisco Bay  
Andrew Galvan, The Ohlone Indian Tribe

**Attachment**

A. Map of ARC

**ATTACHMENT A**

**MAP**



Location Map