

## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

### FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR THE PROPOSED TRUST ACQUISITION OF TWENTY-ONE FEE PARCELS

#### SYCUAN BAND OF THE KUMEYAAY NATION SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) dated June 1, 2012, determining that the proposed trust acquisition of 21 parcels encompassing a total of 1,357.47± acres by the United States for the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation (Tribe) will not result in significant effects to the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The BIA's determination is based on the analysis contained in the Final Environmental Assessment on the Mitigated Proposed Action, the public comments made on the EA, the responses to those comments, the January 2012 intergovernmental agreement between the Tribe and San Diego County, the Biological Opinion issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on August 9, 2011, the mitigation adopted in the FONSI, and the entirety of the administrative record.

The proposed federal action involves the fee-to-trust transfer of 21 parcels totaling approximately 1,357.47 acres, which would lead to the subsequent development of up to 50 housing units for Tribal members; an alternative safety access and evacuation route for the existing Sycuan Reservation housing and governmental facilities; permanent facilities for the Tribe's annual Pow Wow event; an Outdoor Event Center with limited parking for recreational vehicles; and relocation of the Tribe's Equestrian Center. The subject property is located within unincorporated San Diego County adjacent to the Sycuan Reservation in Township (T) 16 South (S), Range (R) 1 East (E), Sections 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 23, 24 and T16S, R2E, Sections 7 and 18 of the San Bernardino Baseline and Meridian, on the "El Cajon" and "Alpine" California U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute topographic quadrangles. The purpose of the federal action is to improve the quality of life of Tribal members through adequate housing and associated infrastructure; to allow for the consolidation of the Tribe's diverse and self-sustaining economic development activities under tribal control; and to allow the Tribal Government to exercise sovereign authority over a greater percentage of the land that it owns, and protect and enhance the wellbeing of Tribal members and natural resources on those lands through implementation of the Tribally adopted Natural and Cultural Resources Management Plan.

The FONSI is a finding on environmental effects, not a decision to proceed with an action, therefore it cannot be appealed. 25 C.F.R. Part 2.7 requires a 30 day appeal period after the decision to proceed with the action is made before the action may be implemented. Appeal information will be made publicly available when the decision to proceed with the action is made.

For more information or to obtain a copy of the FONSI, please contact the Lead Agency: John Rydzik Chief, Division of Environmental, Cultural Resource Management and Safety, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pacific Regional Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, Rm W-2820, California 95825, telephone (916) 978-6051, e-mail [john.rydzik@bia.gov](mailto:john.rydzik@bia.gov).

Copies of the FONSI are also available for public review at the following locations: Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation located at 2 Kwaaypaay Court, El Cajon, CA 92019, telephone (619) 445-6002; and two San Diego County Library branches: Rancho San Diego Branch, 11555 Via Rancho San Diego, El Cajon, CA 92019, telephone (619) 660-5370, and El Cajon Branch, 201 E. Douglas, El Cajon, CA 92020, telephone (619) 588-3718. The FONSI is also available online at [www.sycuanea.com](http://www.sycuanea.com).