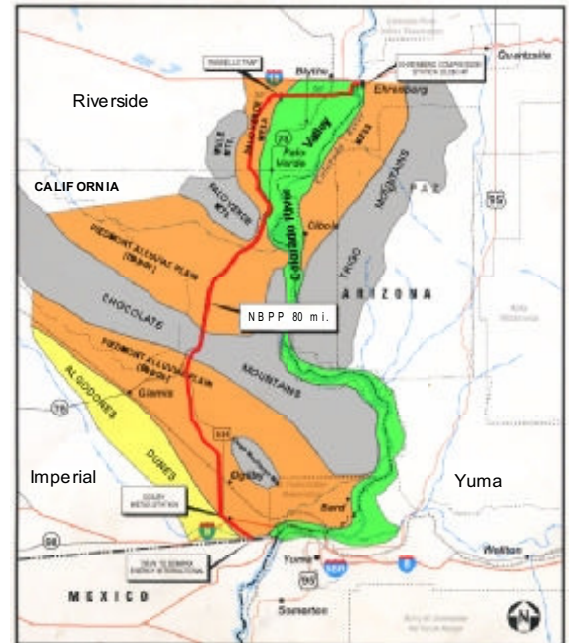




GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS DURING CONSTRUCTION MONITORING North Baja Pipeline Project, Southeastern California

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The North Baja Pipeline stretches approximately 80 miles between Ehrenberg, Arizona and the California-Mexico border. The 30/36-inch gas pipeline crosses several complex geological and geomorphological terrains that have a rich history of human use and occupation. Excavation, construction, and burial for the pipeline required comprehensive identification and management of archaeological resources along the project's right-of-way. *Earth Consultants International* was hired to assist in evaluating the setting and integrity of cultural features at various locations along the pipeline path. We consulted with project and field archaeologists and identified areas with the potential for buried cultural deposits. Where archaeological sites and features were exposed, *Earth Consultants International* helped place them in their proper context for archaeological assessment and data collection.



North Baja Pipeline,
Southern California Segment



Pipeline Installation at the western margin
of the Colorado River floodplain

SOLUTION

Earth Consultants International used aerial photographs and geologic mapping to identify regions with potential for buried archaeological resources and those where cultural resources would be confined to the ground surface and visible to conventional archaeological surveying. We monitored pipeline excavation at several localities that had high probability for containing buried cultural deposits. At one location we documented over a thousand feet of trench exposure containing numerous firepits representing Native American use of the site over several prehistoric and historic time periods.

