

Riverside East SEZ

Cultural Resources Class II Survey Results

Archaeological field work was undertaken at the Riverside East Solar Energy Zone (SEZ) in Riverside County, CA from May 21 to August 23, 2012. The Class II sample survey was completed by SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) under contract with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). A total of 5,948 acres, approximately 5% of the SEZ, was surveyed in 42 discrete quadrats ranging in size from 85 to 160 acres, selected on the basis of a stratified random sample across four distinct physiographic areas (sand dunes, dry lake beds and buffers, mountain pediments, and recent alluvium). The sample units were inventoried to Class III standards using pedestrian transects spaced no further than 15 m apart; transect accuracy was maintained with the use of handheld Trimble GPS receivers and a topographic map.

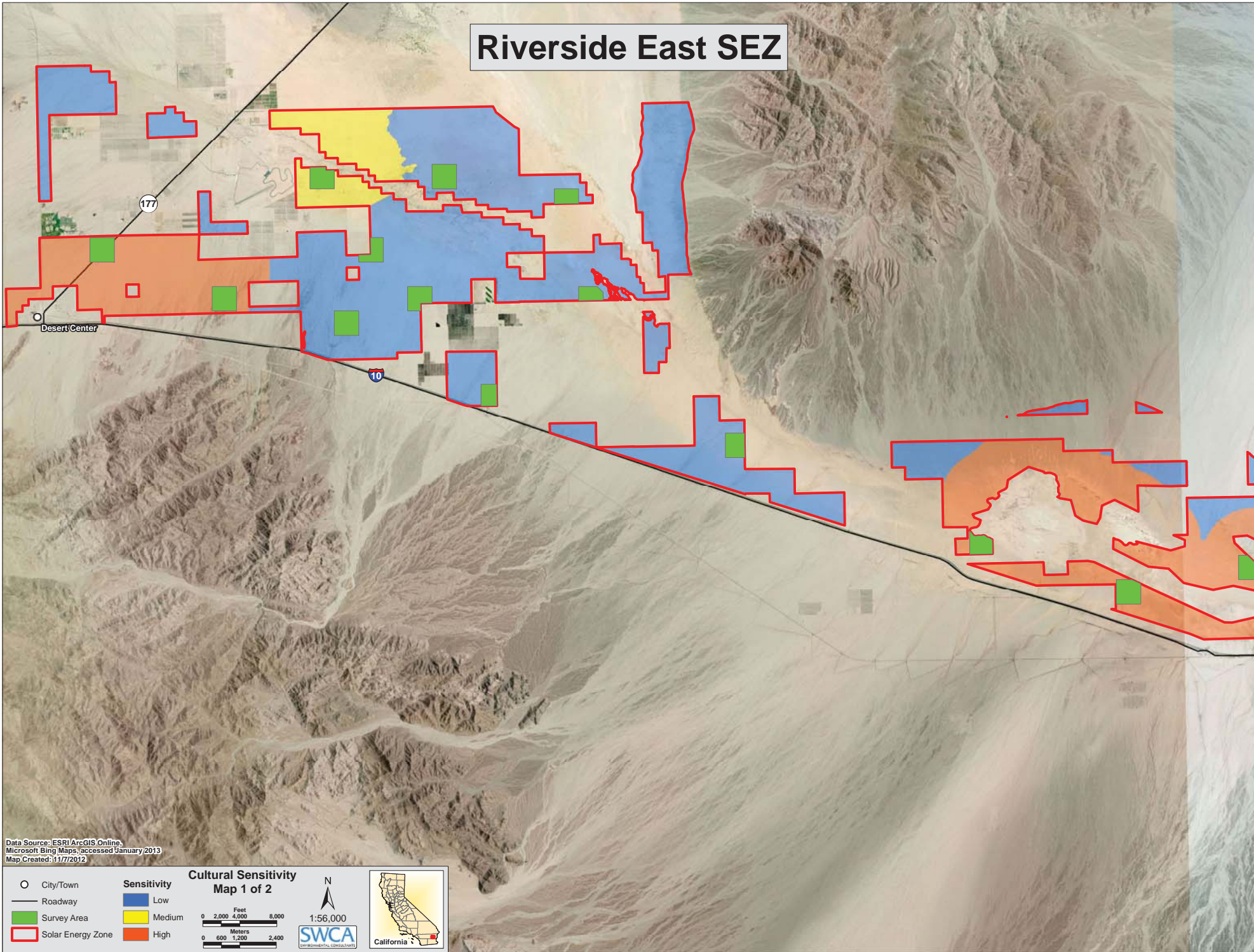
The survey resulted in the recording of 97 new archaeological sites (59 historic, 31 prehistoric, 1 multicomponent, and 6 of unknown age), updates to 37 previously recorded sites (13 prehistoric, 12 historic, 2 multicomponent, and 10 of unknown age), and 55 isolated finds. In addition, several thousand isolated artifacts (i.e., approximately 3,500 cans, 125 glass bottles, and miscellaneous debris that had been dislocated from their primary context by wind and/or water) were tallied, but not formally recorded on forms, as approved by BLM in a contract modification. SWCA recommended sixty sites as eligible for listing in the *National Register of Historic Places* (NRHP). These sixty sites include 13 prehistoric ceramic scatters, 7 open camps/artifact scatters located near lakeshores, 17 prehistoric trail sites, 8 circular clearings in desert pavement, 2 Desert Training Center/ California-Arizona Maneuver Area (DTC/C-AMA) camps, 8 DTC training areas, and a paved section of Highway 177 that contributed in the development of the Colorado River Aqueduct. SWCA recommended that 67 sites and 55 isolated finds were not eligible for listing in the NRHP, and that insufficient information was available to recommend NRHP-eligibility for 7 sites (either no diagnostic artifacts were found to establish age of a site or there was a need for additional archival research to determine significance). BLM is responsible for determining the NRHP eligibility of all properties on BLM-administered lands consistent with 36CFR800.4.

A cultural resource sensitivity map (Figures 1 and 2) of the Riverside-East SEZ was developed by SWCA in conjunction with the completion of the Class II sample survey. The sensitivity zones were based on the consideration of both prehistoric and historic sites recommended as eligible for listing in the NRHP.

A Class III inventory of the area of potential effect (APE) for a solar energy project will be required¹ prior to approving development within the SEZ.

¹ Alternative inventory strategies may be approved by the BLM according to the terms of the Solar Programmatic Agreement provided they are discussed during consultations with the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribes, and any other consulting parties.

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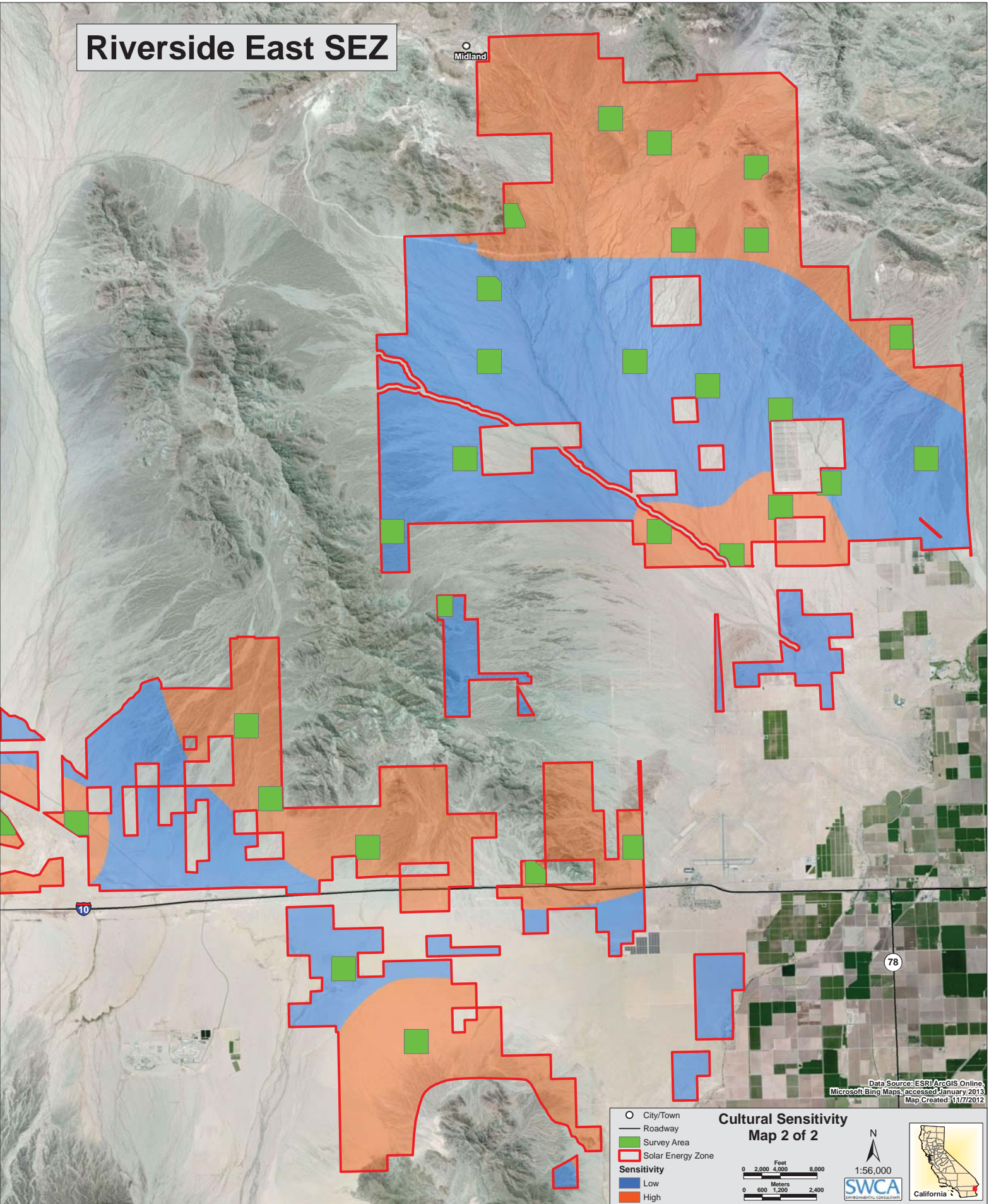
Data Source: ESRI/ArcGIS Online,
Microsoft Bing Maps, accessed January 2013
Map Created: 11/7/2012

○ City/Town	Sensitivity	Cultural Sensitivity	N 1:56,000	
— Roadway	■ Low	Map 1 of 2		
■ Survey Area	■ Medium			
■ Solar Energy Zone	■ High			

SWCA
Sustainable Watershed Consulting Associates, Inc.

Riverside East SEZ

Midland



Data Source: ESRI ArcGIS Online, Microsoft Bing Maps, accessed January 2013
Map Created: 1/17/2012

Cultural Sensitivity
Map 2 of 2

- City/Town
- Roadway
- Survey Area
- Solar Energy Zone

Sensitivity

- Low
- High

0 2,000 4,000 8,000 Feet
0 600 1,200 2,400 Meters

1:56,000

SWCA
SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY