

Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation



*Previously acknowledged as
The San Carlos Band of
Mission Indians
The Monterey Band
And also known as
O.C.E.N. or Esselen Nation
P.O. Box 1301
Monterey, CA 93942*

www.ohlonecostanoanesselenation.org

September 1, 2017

Bobby Latino, Associate Planner
City of Salinas
Community Development Department
65 West Alisal Street
Salinas, CA 93901

Re: Environmental Review/Request for comments 199 Skyway Boulevard/APN 003-863-036-000/Misc.
2016-008

Saleki Atsa,

Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation is an historically documented previously recognized tribe. OCEN is the legal tribal government representative for over 600 enrolled members of Esselen, Carmeleno, Monterey Band, Rumsen, Chalon, Soledad Mission, San Carlos Mission and/or Costanoan Mission Indian descent of Monterey County. Though other indigenous people may have lived in the area, the area is the indigenous homeland of our people. Included with this letter please find a territorial map by Taylor 1856; Levy 1973; and Milliken 1990, indentifying Tribal areas.

Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation objects to all excavation in known cultural lands, even when they are described as previously disturbed, and of no significant archaeological value. Please be advised that it is our first priority that our ancestor's remains be protected and undisturbed. We desire that all sacred burial items be left with our ancestors on site or as culturally determined by OCEN. All cultural items returned to Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation. We ask for the respect that is afforded all of our current day deceased, by no other word these burial sites are cemeteries, respect for our ancestors as you would expect respect for your deceased family members in today's cemeteries. **Our definition of respect is no disturbance.**

OCEN's Tribal leadership desires to be provided with archaeological reports/surveys, including subsurface testing, and presence/absence testing. OCEN request to be included in mitigation and recovery programs, reburial of any of our ancestral remains, placement of all cultural items, and that a Native American Monitor of Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation, approved by the OCEN Tribal Council be used within our aboriginal territory.

OCEN requests consultation on **all projects** affecting our aboriginal homelands, **which include all ground disturbance** (not limited to ground disturbance). It is our request to consult on projects to establish a procedure, 1. provide OCEN with all reports, 2. establish procedure for disturbance of unknown sites, 3. procedure for known sites, etc.

We ask that a sacred lands search with the Northwest Information Center, Sonoma State University and the Native American Heritage Commission. We are advised that consultation is 30 days beginning when we receive not from mailing date. Please feel free to contact me at (408) 629-5189. Nimasianexelpasaleki. Thank you

Sincerely and Respectfully Yours,


Louise J. Miranda Ramirez, Chairperson
Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation
(408) 629-5189

Cc: OCEN Tribal Council

Distribution of Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation Tribal Rancherias, Districts, Landgrants and Historic Landmarks

OCEN DIRECT LINEAL DESCENT

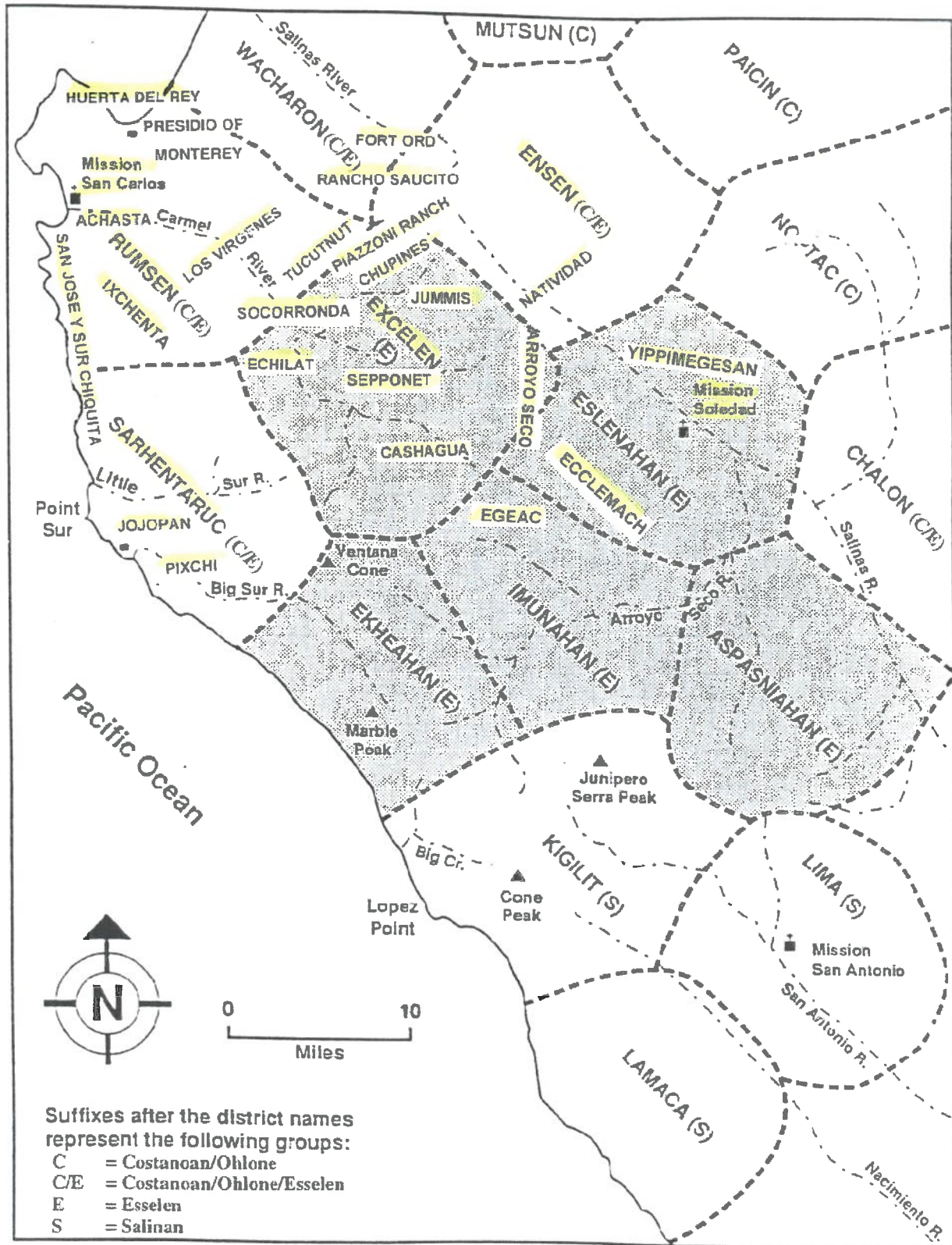


Figure 2:

Map after Taylor 1856; Levy 1973; Hester 1978; Milliken 1990

