



Doug Ducey
Governor

ARIZONA STATE PARKS & TRAILS

Bob Broscheid
Executive Director



July 22, 2022

Rebecca Yedlin
Environmental Coordinator
Federal Highway Administration Arizona Division
4000 N. Central Ave, Ste 1500
Phoenix, AZ 85012

RE: Scottsdale, Maricopa County; Pima Road Widening Project; Continuing Section 106 Consultation; Phoenix Basin Prehistoric Canals – Determinations of Eligibility; Federal Highway Association; SHPO-2020-1624(164202)

Dear Ms. Yedlin:

This letter is in response to questions raised about the eligibility of prehistoric canals that are projected to occur within the area of potential effects for the above-referenced project.

Decades of archaeological research on prehistoric canals in the Phoenix Basin have provided a wealth of knowledge about irrigation technology, agricultural practices, subsistence and settlement patterns, social organization and more. In my authority as State Historic Preservation Officer and pursuant to Section 101b of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 U.S.C. 300101 *et seq*), I have determined that the prehistoric canal systems and projected canal alignments in the lower Salt River Valley and associated with the *Huhugam* culture are eligible for inclusion in the Arizona and National Register of Historic Places (ARHP, NRHP) under Criterion D (information potential).

Please don't hesitate to contact me at 602.542.4009 or via e-mail at kleonard@azstateparks.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Leonard
State Historic Preservation Officer

References:

Map of Prehistoric Hohokam Canals by Jerry B. Howard and Gary Huckleberry. Soil Systems Inc.
On file, City of Phoenix Archaeology Office.

Hohokam Irrigation Longevity and Agricultural Success in the Lower Salt River Valley, Arizona by Christopher Robert Caseldine. A Dissertation Presented in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree Doctor of Philosophy. Arizona State University.