

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Wiipuk uun'yaw Trail

DRAFT

**THIS NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION
CONTAINS RESTRICTED INFORMATION**

Where disclosure to the public may cause a significant invasion of privacy or risk harm to the historic resources, locations and ownership information can be considered confidential and public access to such information can be restricted by law (Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act). The following summary of the description and significance of the above-named resource is available for public access.

Wiipuk uun'yaw Trail, also known as the Cottonwood Trail, is located in the Laguna Mountains area of the Cleveland National Forest, in eastern San Diego County, California. The trail is a Traditional Cultural Landscape associated with the Kwaaymi people. The trail was designed and engineered to provide a pedestrian route through the canyon, reflecting careful planning and human effort.

The trail is eligible under Criterion A for its association with the lifestyle and belief systems of the Kwaaymii people, including their journeys between their mountain and desert homes. It is eligible under Criterion B for its association with Tom Lucas, Maria Alto, and SuSaana Kleitch, who traveled the trail, maintained it, and provided direct ethnographic oral and written documentation on the cultural traditions of the Kwaaymii. Under Criterion C, the trail is a uniquely designed and engineered structure with a distinctive method of construction. Additionally, the property is eligible under Criterion D as a well preserved and important example of lifestyle movement and economic adaptation patterns that can, through continued non-invasive research, provide insight into patterns of settlement on a larger scale. Movement up and down this trail represented a critical part of the lifestyle for the Kwaaymii and other Kumeyaay people, many of whom occupied procurement ranges that required considerable residential mobility and adaptation to difficult environments.