

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: April 2015

District/ Field Office: Red Rock Sloan Field Office

Resource Area: RRCNCA

Activity (program): Scenic Loop Drive and Parking Areas Improvements

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: New Return Loop Road from Sandstone to Visitor Center	4. Location Township <u>21S</u>	5. Location Sketch See Figure 2
2. Key Observation Point 01 Trail Near Picnic Area by Visitor Center	Range <u>59E</u>	
3. VRM Class III	Section <u>12</u>	

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Land appears relatively flat in foreground area, though slight undulations are apparent. Jagged mountain forms visible in background.	Foreground and middleground a solid mantle of low desert vegetation covers the landscape. Larger vegetation appears irregularly shaped.	Small cluster of communications equipment in foreground composed of thin linear members.
LINE	The edge of the valley floor against the base of the mountains creates a horizontal, angular line. The mountains create a jagged line across the horizon.	Variations in the density and color large blocks of vegetation create several horizontal lines across the landscape	The members of which the communications equipment is composed create thin horizontal and vertical lines.
COLOR	Tan-colored soils are apparent beneath the vegetation in the immediate foreground. The mountains appear red, tan, and gray, and white where covered with snow.	Greens and tans dominate.	Brown and gray
TEXTURE	Foreground and middleground fine. Background is rough, directional, and stippled.	Shrub vegetation appears coarse.	smooth

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	No change.	No change.	A linear roadway would be introduced into a landscape that now has only one small manmade structure.
LINE	No change.	No change.	The roadway would introduce a horizontal line across the landscape. This line would mirror the line generated between the edge of the valley floor and the base of the mountains.
COLOR	No change.	No change.	The black color of the roadway and the lighter tan of the disturbed soil along it would create a slight contrast with the colors of the surrounding landscape.
TEXTURE	No change.	No change.	The roadway appears smooth.

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SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: New Return Loop Road from Sandstone to Visitor Center	4. Location Township <u>21S</u>	5. Location Sketch See Figure 2
2. Key Observation Point 02 View from Scenic Loop Road Near Crossing of Sandstone Wash	Range <u>58E</u>	
3. VRM Class III	Section <u>2</u>	

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Land slopes down to a flat basin area. Jagged mountains frame the backdrop.	Consistent coverage of landscape by vegetation. Larger vegetation in foreground appears irregularly shaped.	Small area of roadway in the immediate foreground and SR 159 seen in the distance create flat surfaces.
LINE	The edge of the plateau area in the foreground and the edge of the valley floor against the base of the distant mountains create horizontal lines across the landscape. The ridgeline of the hill seen beyond SR 159 creates an angled line. The crests of the mountains create a jagged line across the horizon.	Contrasting blocks of vegetation create horizontal lines across the valley floor and irregular lines on the	Roadway in foreground creates a straight line. SR 159 in distance creates a curved line.
COLOR	Tan-colored soils are apparent beneath the vegetation in the foreground. The mountains appear gray and tan.	Dark greens, tans, and yellow dominate.	Roadway in foreground appears gray. SR 159 in distance appears light gray to white.
TEXTURE	The mountains rough in texture.	Shrub vegetation appears coarse in the immediate foreground and moderately smooth in the middleground and distance.	Roadway in foreground appears textured. SR 159 in distance appears smooth.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	No change.	No change.	Roadway extending down the slope in the foreground would be removed and replaced by a flat roadway that extends across the plateau area in the foreground.
LINE	No change.	No change.	With replacement of the existing road segment with the new road segment, a horizontal line will extend into the plateau area in the foreground of the view.
COLOR	No change.	No change.	The surface of the new road will be gray, contrasting with the colors of the surrounding landscape,
TEXTURE	No change.	No change.	The surface of the new road will appear textured.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM X LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST		FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <u>X</u> Yes ___ No (Explain on reverses side) 3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <u>X</u> Yes ___ No (Explain on reverses side)
		LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)				
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	
ELEMENTS	FORM				X				X		X			Evaluator's Names Date: 3/20/2015 Thomas Priestley, Ph.D. ASLA/AICP
	LINE				X				X		X			
	COLOR				X				X		X			
	TEXTURE				X				X		X			

SECTION D. (Continued)

Additional Mitigating Measures (See item 3)

- add a coloring agent to the asphalt to match the color of the surrounding soil
- ensure that any areas of disturbance along the roadway are covered with topsoil to avoid exposure of lighter colored sub-soils and to encourage revegetation.

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Activity (program): Scenic Loop Drive and Parking Areas Improvements

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: New Return Loop Road from Sandstone to Visitor Center and Calico 3 Parking Lot	4. Location Township ___21S__	5. Location Sketch See Figure 1
2. Key Observation Point 03 View from Red Rock Overlook	Range ___58E__	
3. VRM Class II and III	Section ___14__	

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Land appears undulating in the foreground and middleground areas. Jagged rock outcrop and mountain forms visible in background.	Consistent coverage of landscape in foreground and middleground by vegetation. Larger vegetation in foreground appears irregularly shaped.	Structures are not visible in this view.
LINE	In the foreground, the wash at the base of the slope creates a short, sinuous line. In the middleground, the lowland areas and the ridges create weak horizontal lines across the landscape. In the background, the edge of the valley lands against the base of the rock formations creates a strong, angular, horizontal line. The crest of the rock formations and the more distant mountains create a jagged line across the horizon.	Edges of vegetation at base of slope in foreground create a sinuous line. Variations in vegetative cover create weak horizontal lines across the middleground.	Structures are not visible in this view.
COLOR	Light colored rocks and gravel in wash at base of slope in foreground. Tan-colored soils are apparent beneath the vegetation in the middleground. Rock outcrops are red and white and bright orange. The mountains in the backdrop appear red and gray.	Greens and tans dominate.	Structures are not visible in this view.
TEXTURE	The mountains appear stippled from this distance and the rock outcrops rough.	Shrub vegetation appears coarse in foreground and fine in the middleground.	Structures are not visible in this view.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	No change.	No change.	A flat, linear roadway feature would be introduced into a landscape in which manmade structures are not now evident.
LINE	No change.	No change.	The new return road will create an intermittently appearing line across the top of an intermediate ridge in the middleground. Expanded Calico 1 parking lot will create a barely detectable line at the base of the rock outcrop in the distance. These lines will be consistent with the existing horizontal lines across the landscape's middleground.
COLOR	No change.	No change.	The light brown of the disturbed soil along the roadway will create a moderate level of contrast with the colors of the surrounding landscape. The small area of dark color created by the expansion of the Calico 1 parking lot will not create a high level of contrast.
TEXTURE	No change.	No change.	The portions of the graded areas along the return loop road and the Calico 1 parking lot will appear smooth.

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Activity (program): Scenic Loop Drive and Parking Areas Improvements

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: Calico 1	4. Location Township <u>21S</u>	5. Location Sketch See Figure 2
2. Key Observation Point 04 View from Scenic Loop Drive	Range <u>58E</u>	
3. VRM Class II	Section <u>1</u>	

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Land appears relatively flat in foreground area, though slight undulations are apparent. Jagged rock outcrop and mountain forms visible in the middleground and background.	Consistent coverage of landscape by sparse desert vegetation	Flat road surface and small vertical signs. Vehicle parked in parking lot.
LINE	The edge of the valley floor against the base of the rock outcrops and mountains creates a horizontal lines. The tops of the rock outcrops and mountains create jagged lines.	Edges of vegetation apparent only at the edge of the valley floor.	Roadway creates horizontal lines that extend into the middleground of the view. Supports for signs create thin vertical lines.
COLOR	Tan-colored soils are apparent beneath the vegetation. The rock outcrops appear orange and the distant mountains appear gray and tan.	Greens and tans dominate.	Roadway is nearly black, curb appears white, signs are gray and brown.
TEXTURE	Areas of exposed soil in the foreground appear rough. Rock outcrops have moderately smooth surfaces. Distant mountains appear stippled.	Desert shrub vegetation in foreground appears coarse. Vegetation layer in middleground and background appears smooth.	Roadway paving appears textured, curbs appear smooth. Surfaces of signs and sign supports appear to be generally smooth.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	No change.	No change.	A much wider and more visually dominant paved area would be introduced into the foreground of the view. A larger mass of parked vehicles will be visible in the center of the view.
LINE	No change.	No change.	The horizontal lines created by the realigned roadway would extend into the view until the point where they disappear because of the change in the slope.
COLOR	No change.	No change.	The area of dark, visually contrasting pavement in the middle of the view will be substantially increased
TEXTURE	No change.	No change.	Area of textured paving that contrasts with the rough texture of the immediately surrounding landscape will be substantially increased.

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SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: Calico 1	4. Location Township <u>21S</u>	5. Location Sketch See Figures 1 and 2
2. Key Observation Point 05 View from Viewing Platform at Visitor Center	Range <u>59E</u>	
3. VRM Class II and III	Section <u>12</u>	

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Land appears relatively flat in foreground area, though slight undulations are apparent. Jagged rock outcrop and mountain forms visible in background.	Consistent coverage of landscape by vegetation Larger vegetation appears irregularly shaped.	Structures are not visible in this view, but vehicles parked in Calico 1 parking lot and small segment of Scenic Loop Drive are visible at the base of the rock outcrops
LINE	The edge of the valley floor against the base of the rock outcrops creates a horizontal, angular line. The tops of the rock outcrops and the mountains create a jagged lines.	In the far middleground, two contrasting areas of vegetation create a horizontal line across the valley floor. Another horizontal line is created where valley floor vegetation ends at the base of the rock outcrops.	The Calico 1 parking lot and the small segments of the Scenic Loop Drive that are visible create hints of a vertical line near the base of the rock outcrops.
COLOR	Tan-colored soils are apparent beneath the vegetation in the middleground. Rock outcrops are red and white and bright orange. The mountains in the backdrop appear red and gray.	Greens and tans dominate.	Small area of Scenic Loop Drive that is visible is black. Cars parked in distant Calico 1 parking lot are light in color.
TEXTURE	The mountains appear stippled from this distance and the rock outcrops rough.	Shrub vegetation appears coarse in foreground and fine in the middleground	Small area of Scenic Loop Drive that is visible is smooth. Cars parked in distant Calico 1 parking lot create a coarse texture.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	No change.	No change.	A flat paved area will be visible at the Calico 1 parking area at the base of the rock outcrop.
LINE	No change.	No change.	The expanded Calico 1 parking lot will create a line at the base of the rock outcrop in the distance. This line will be consistent with the existing horizontal line at the base of the rock outcrops..
COLOR	No change.	No change.	The band of dark color created by the expansion of the Calico 1 parking lot will contrast with the colors of the surrounding landscape
TEXTURE	No change.	No change.	The expanded Calico 1 parking lot will appear smooth.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM X LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST		FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <u> </u> Yes <u>X</u> No (Explain on reverses side) 3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <u>X</u> Yes <u> </u> No (Explain on reverses side)
		LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)				
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	
ELEMENTS	FORM				X				X		X			Evaluator's Names Date: 4/17/2015 Thomas Priestley, Ph.D. ASLA/AICP
	LINE				X				X			X		
	COLOR				X				X	X				
	TEXTURE				X				X	X				

SECTION D. (Continued)

Additional Mitigating Measures (See item 3)

- add a coloring agent to the asphalt used for the relocated road segment and the expanded parking lot to match the color of the surrounding soil,
- ensure that any areas of disturbance along the roadway and parking lot are covered with topsoil to avoid exposure of lighter colored sub-soils and to encourage revegetation.
- the areas shown in the plans and in the simulation as striped, indicating that parking will not be taking place there should be left unpaved, and if already vegetated, the existing vegetation should be left in place. If there is currently no vegetation in these areas, they should be replanted.

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SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: Sandstone Quarry	4. Location Township <u>20S</u>	5. Location Sketch See Figure 2.
2. Key Observation Point 06 View from Sandstone Quarry Entrance Road	Range <u>58E</u>	
3. VRM Class II	Section <u>35</u>	

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Land in foreground area is flat to sloped. Striking rock outcrop in middleground. Steeply sloped rock ridge in background.	Landscape covered by a mottled layer of low vegetation. Larger vegetation appears irregularly shaped.	Flat paved roadway and parking area. Dense concentration of parked vehicles in the parking lot.
LINE	Horizontal striations visible in the rock outcrop in the middleground and in the rock ridge in the backdrop. Top of rock outcrop consists of a series of short curves. Top of rock ridge in background consists of some segments with straight lines and others with curves.	The vegetation pattern is irregular, but the denser and slightly larger strip of vegetation along both sides of the road leading to the parking area creates a hint of a curved lines.	The roadway leading into the parking area creates a curved line.
COLOR	Tan-colored soils are apparent beneath the vegetation on the sloped area in the foreground and middleground. The rock outcrop is a light tan. The rock ridge in the backdrop is gray and tan.	Greens and tans dominate.	The surface of the roadway and parking lot are gray to black.
TEXTURE	Areas of exposed soil in the foreground appear rough. The rock outcrop has a moderately textured surface. The rock ridge in the backdrop has a stippled surface.	Desert shrub vegetation on in the foreground appears coarse. Vegetation layer in on the ridge in the backdrop appears slightly textured.	Roadway and parking lot paving appears smooth.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	No change.	No change.	Area of parking lot paving will be noticeably increased. Visual mass create by parked vehicles will be increased.
LINE	No change.	No change.	Straight lines along the edges of the parking lot will become evident.
COLOR	No change.	No change.	The area of dark, visually contrasting pavement in the middle of the view will be substantially increased
TEXTURE	No change.	No change.	Area of smooth paving that contrasts with the rough texture of the immediately surrounding landscape will be substantially increased.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST		FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverses side) 3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverses side)
		LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)				
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	
ELEMENTS	FORM			X				X	X				Evaluator's Names Date: 4/17/15 Thomas Priestley, Ph.D. ASLA/AICP	
	LINE			X				X		X				
	COLOR			X				X	X					
	TEXTURE			X				X	X					

SECTION D. (Continued)

Additional Mitigating Measures (See item 3)

- add a coloring agent to the asphalt used for the expanded parking lot to match the color of the surrounding soil,
- ensure that any areas of disturbance along the parking lot are covered with topsoil to avoid exposure of lighter colored sub-soils and to encourage revegetation.
- the areas shown in the plans and in the simulation as striped, indicating that parking will not be taking place there should be left unpaved, and if already vegetated, the existing vegetation should be left in place. If there is currently no vegetation in these areas, they should be replanted.

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SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: Lost Creek	4. Location Township <u>21S</u>	5. Location Sketch See Figure 3
2. Key Observation Point 07 View from Rocky Gap Road	Range <u>58E</u>	
3. VRM Class III	Section <u>4</u>	

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Immediate foreground is flat. Steep-sided blocky rock outcrops form the backdrop	Irregularly shaped vegetation dispersed across the foreground area. Patches of low vegetation visible on the walls of the rock outcrop	Small rest room structure partially visible behind vegetation. Concentration of vehicles on the flat graveled parking lot area. Paved flat roadway. Diamond shaped roadway sign
LINE	Faint horizontal striations visible across the face of the rock outcrops. Tops of the rock outcrops create irregular lines seen against the sky.	Vegetative pattern is irregular except where the vegetative masses form a straight line along the edge of the access road.	Edges of the access road and parking lot create straight lines on the ground surface. Roadway sign support post create a thin vertical line.
COLOR	Light colored, nearly white exposed gravel and soil visible along the road shoulders and on the surface of the parking lot. The rock outcrops appear light tan.	Greens and tans dominate.	Roadway is light gray, rest room structure is brown, road sign is silver and yellow.
TEXTURE	Exposed gravel along roadway has a moderate, even texture. The walls of the rock outcrops in the background have a chunky texture.	Vegetation on flat area appears coarse. Patches of low vegetation on the rock outcrops is moderately textured.	Surface of roadway is moderately smooth. Graveled surface of parking lot has a lightly textured appearance. Rest room structure and sign have a smooth texture.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	No change.	No change.	Area of parking lot paving will be noticeably increased. Visual mass create by parked vehicles will be increased.
LINE	No change.	No change.	Straight lines along the edges of the parking lot will become more evident.
COLOR	No change.	No change.	The area of dark, visually contrasting pavement in the middle of the view will be substantially increased
TEXTURE	No change.	No change.	Area of smooth paving that contrasts with the rough texture of the immediately surrounding landscape will be substantially increased.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM X LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST		FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <u> X </u> Yes <u> </u> No (Explain on reverses side) 3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <u> X </u> Yes <u> </u> No (Explain on reverses side)
		LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)				
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	
ELEMENTS	FORM			X				X	X				Evaluator's Names Date: 4/19/2015 Thomas Priestley, Ph.D. ASLA/AICP	
	LINE			X				X	X					
	COLOR			X				X	X					
	TEXTURE			X				X	X					

SECTION D. (Continued)

Additional Mitigating Measures (See item 3)

- add a coloring agent to the asphalt used for the expanded parking lot to match the color of the surrounding soil,
- ensure that any areas of disturbance along the parking lot are covered with topsoil to avoid exposure of lighter colored sub-soils and to encourage revegetation.
- the areas shown in the plans and in the simulation as striped, indicating that parking will not be taking place there should be left unpaved, and if already vegetated, the existing vegetation should be left in place. If there is currently no vegetation in these areas, they should be replanted.

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SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: Willow Springs	4. Location Township <u>20S</u>	5. Location Sketch See Figure 3
2. Key Observation Point 08 View from Rocky Gap Road	Range <u>58E</u>	
3. VRM Class II	Section <u>33</u>	

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Immediate foreground is flat. Backdropped by steep sided blocky rock outcrops and more distant, steep sided mountains	Irregularly shaped vegetation dispersed across the foreground area. Patches of low vegetation visible on the walls of the rock outcrops and the slopes of the more distant mountains.	Concentration of vehicles on the flat graveled parking lot area. Paved flat roadway. Small rectangular shaped no parking sign.
LINE	Faint horizontal striations visible across the face of the rock outcrops and mountains. Tops of the rock outcrops create irregular lines seen against the sky. Tops of mountains create slightly curved lines against the sky.	Vegetative pattern is irregular except where the vegetative masses form a straight line along the edge of the access road.	Edges of the access road and parking lot create straight lines on the ground surface. No parking sign support post creates a thin vertical line..
COLOR	Light colored, nearly white exposed gravel and soil visible along the road shoulders and on the surface of the parking lot. The rock outcrops appear light tan. The mountains appear tan to white.	Greens and tans dominate.	Roadway is light gray, road sign is gray and white. Parked vehicles exhibit an array of colors.
TEXTURE	Exposed gravel along roadway has a moderate, even texture. The walls of the rock outcrops have a chunky texture. The mountains in the distance had a stippled texture.	Vegetation on flat area appears coarse. Patches of low vegetation on the rock outcrops is moderately textured.	Surface of roadway is moderately smooth. Graveled surface of parking lot has a lightly textured appearance. Sign has a smooth texture.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	No change.	No change.	Area of parking lot paving will be noticeably increased. Visual mass create by parked vehicles will be increased.
LINE	No change.	No change.	Straight lines will be created along the edges of the parking lot.
COLOR	No change.	No change.	The area of dark, visually contrasting pavement in the middle of the view will be substantially increased
TEXTURE	No change.	No change.	Area of smooth paving that contrasts with the rough texture of the immediately surrounding landscape will be substantially increased.

