Appendix E

Visual Contrast Rating Worksheet

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date	04/02/15
District	Carson City
Resource Area	Stillwater Field Office
Activity (program)	Recreation

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name	4. Location	5. Location Sketch
New Pass Peak Distribution Project	Township T20N	See attached map
2. Key Observation Point: KOP 1	Range R40E	
3. VRM Class: Proposed/Intrim VRM 4	Section Sec 32	

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LANDWATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Bold, Prominent, Angular, Moderate, Triangular, diagonals	Rough, Non-directional, Short, Low, Patchy, Simple	Valley floor from foreground to middle ground
LINE	Bold, irregular, Diagonal and Vertical, Rugged, Complex, Geometric	Weak, Irregular, Rugged, Broken,	straight, linear, vertical, horizontal
COLOR	Medium, rough, gradational, Directional, matte,	Dark greens to light Tans to Yellows, Subtle	Light Brown and gray
TEX-TURE	Medium, rough, gradational, Directional, matte,	Stippled, Course, Patchy,	linear

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LANDWATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	N/A	N/A	Indistinct
LINE	N/A	N/A	Straight, Linear, Verticle
COLOR	N/A	N/A	browns, gray
TEX-TURE	N/A	N/A	Smooth, Uniform, fine

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONSTRAST

		FEATURES											
		LANDWATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)			
		Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
ELEMENTS	Form				X				X				X
	Line				X				X				X
	Color				X				X				X
	Texture				X				X				X

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names	Date
Bryan Morse	04/03/15

Comments from item 2.

KOP 1 was chosen since it is located on Highway 50 and the most likely place the general public would be able to view the proposed site while driving east and west along the New Pass Range. From this location, 6.5 linear miles from the project site, the existing communications tower is not visible even with the aid of binoculars and the solar panels could not be seen due screening from the rugged terrain and vegetation. The installation of underground transmission lines, jusction boxes on the top on New Pass Peak would introduce no visual impacts along this ridge line that would be viewable by the public. In additon, the lower transmission line proposed in Edwards Creek Valley would not be viewable by the public. As proposed, the project would meet the proposed management objectives of VRM 4 for this area.

Additional Mitigating Measures (See item 3)

1. All new structures should be painted using dark greens or dark browns similar to Beetle, Juniper Green, or Shadow Gray as found on the BLM Standard Environmental Color Chart CC-001to reduce visibility from areas most likely to be viewed by the public.
2. Vegetation removed during construction phase should be used as vertical mulching on any areas with surface disturbance
3. Surface disturbance should be kept to the minimum required to install equipment. Surface disturbance on side slopes on edge of ridge should be avoided where possible.
4. Maintenance on existing structures should include painting with similar dark colors when necessary to reduce the cumulative impacts of the site.

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Proposed site of existing communication sites as viewed from approximately 6.5 miles south of New Pass Peak just off of Highway 50. This is the most likely road to be traveled by the general public and the most viewable location of the project site along this road. The existing tower is not visible even with the aid of 10X binoculars from this location. Viewability of the transmission line portion of the project from the south will be obscured by the peak, southern portion of the New Pass Range. Viewability of the Site from Highway 50 is low due to distance from the road.

From this Key Observation Point (KOP) the viewshed can be divided into three distinct boundaries: the foreground, middle ground and background. The foreground consists of flat sandy soils sparsely populated with salt desert scrub with predominate colors of light yellow, and light tans. The middle ground is comprised of rolling hills covered with sage brush with a smooth to moderate texture and tan colors. The background consists of rugged terrain comprised of small ridges and canyons that provide dark and light contrasts from shadows with predominant colors of dark greens and grays.

Project: New Pass Peak Distribution EA	**Date:** 01/17/14
Evaluators: Bryan Morse	**Photo ID**: 01
Location ID: KOP 1	**Lens Focal Length**: 50 mm
View: facing North	**Waypoint ID**: 1
UTM East: 457309.479	**UTM North:** 4377907.741

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date	04/02/15
District	Carson City
Resource Area	Stillwater Field Office
Activity (program)	Recreation

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name	4. Location	5. Location Sketch
New Pass Peak Distribution Project	Township T21N	See attached map
2. Key Observation Point: KOP 2	Range R39E	
3. VRM Class: Proposed/Intrim VRM 4	Section Sec 2	

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LANDWATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Flat to rolling terrain, Bold, Prominent, Angular, Moderate, Triangular, diagonals	Rough, Non-directional, Short, Low, Patchy, Simple	N/A
LINE	Bold, irregular, Diagonal and Vertical, Rugged, Complex, Geometric	Weak, Irregular, Rugged, Broken,	N/A
COLOR	light browns to grays	Dark greens to light Tans to Yellows, Subtle	N/A
TEX-TURE	light browns to grays	Stippled, Course, Patchy,	N/A

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LANDWATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Flat	Geometric and linear forms created by clearting	verticle poles, junction boxes
LINE	horizontal curves (roads	strong irregular lines created by edge effect of clearing	vertical poles, horizontal wires
COLOR	light tan to gray	N/A	browns, gray
TEX-TURE	smooth	patchy	Smooth, Uniform, fine

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONSTRAST

		FEATURES											
		LANDWATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)			
		Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
ELEMENTS	Form			X					X			X	
	Line			X				X				X	
	Color			X					X				X
	Texture			X					X				X

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names	Date
Bryan Morse	04/03/15

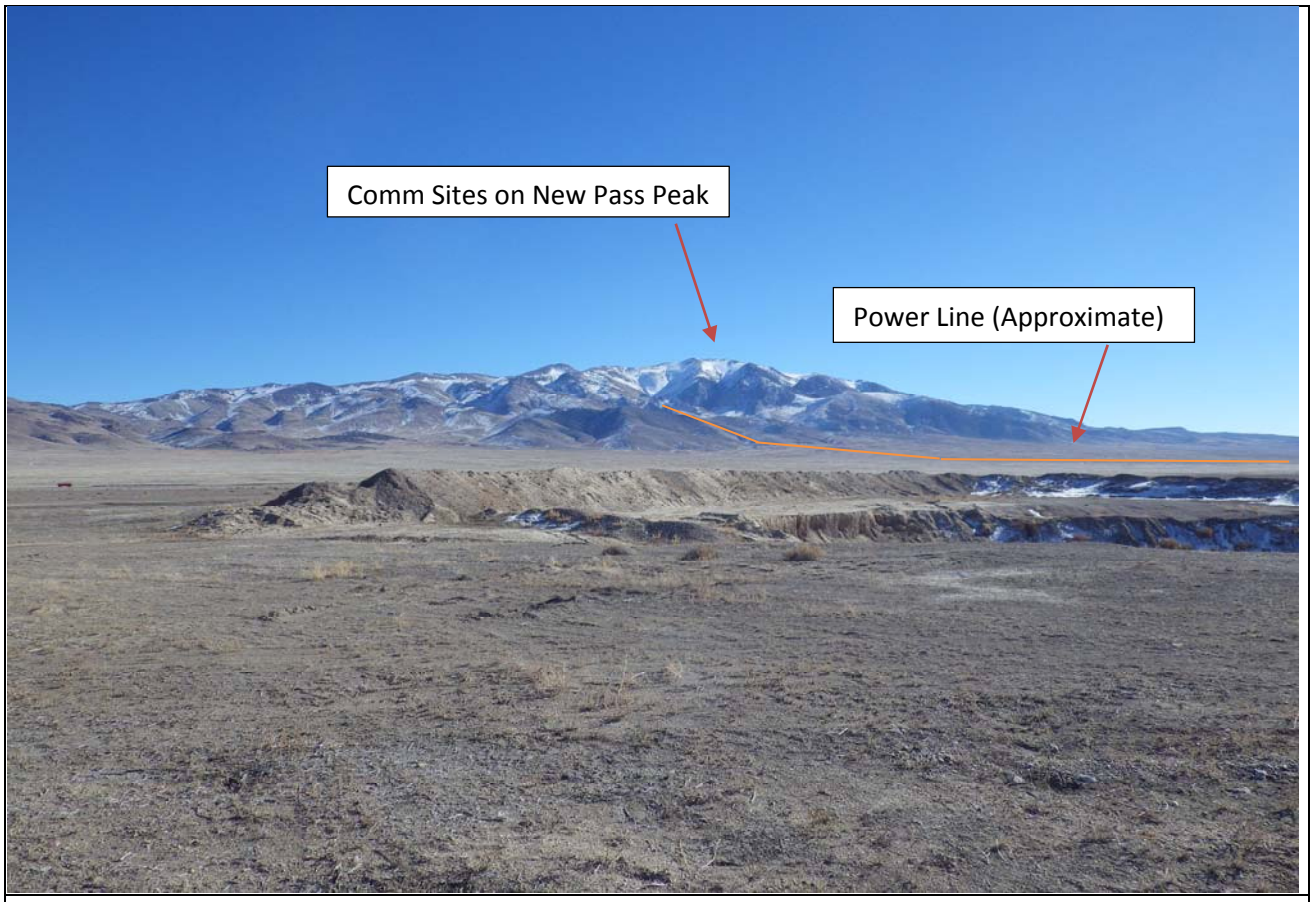
Comments from item 2.

KOP 2 was chosen since it is located on Alpine Road near an active gravel pit and is a likely place the general public would be able to view the proposed site. From this location the project site is approximatley 3.1 to 5 miles away (from each end of the corridor). The existing communications site is not visible even with the aid of binoculars and the solar panels could not be seen due screening from the rugged terrain and vegetation. The installation of transmission lines and access road along the valley floor would be slightly visible from this distance, but would not greatly alter the landscape character of the area. The junction boxes and underground utility installation on the top on New Pass Peak would introduce no visual impacts along the ridge line that would be viewable by the public. As proposed, the project would meet the proposed management objectives of VRM 4 for this area.

Additional Mitigating Measures (See item 3)

1. All new structures should be painted using dark greens or dark browns similar to Beetle, Juniper Green, or Shadow Gray as found on the BLM Standard Environmental Color Chart CC-001to reduce visibility from areas most likely to be viewed by the public.
2. Vegetation removed during construction phase should be used as vertical mulching on any areas with surface disturbance
3. Surface disturbance should be kept to the minimum required to install equipment. Surface disturbance on side slopes on edge of ridge should be avoided where possible.
4. Maintenance on existing structures should include painting with similar dark colors when necessary to reduce the cumulative impacts of the site.

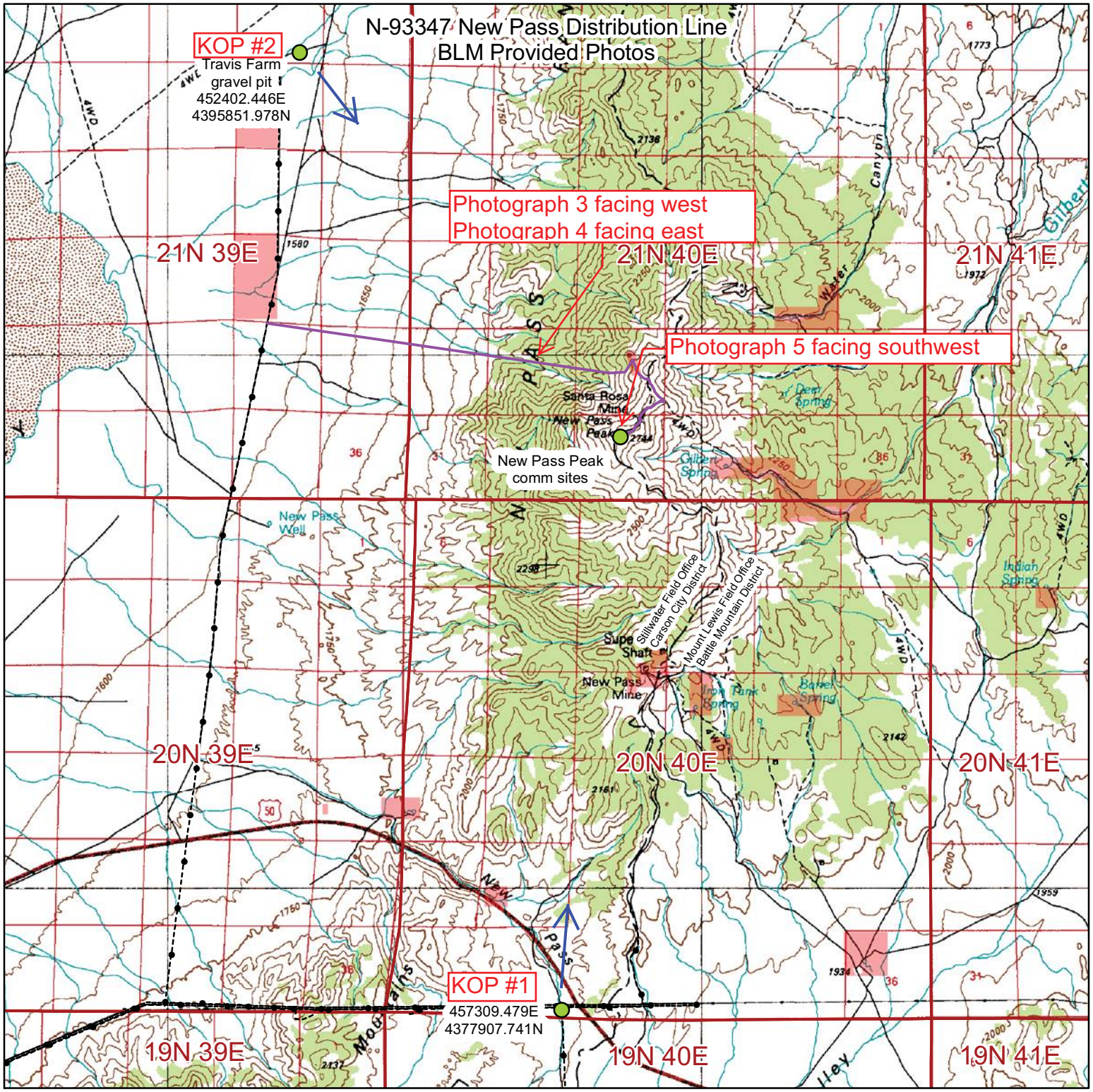
U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1985-461-988/33094



Proposed site of existing communication sites as viewed from approximately 3 miles north of the proposed transmission line alignment and approximately 5 miles north of New Pass Peak from the Travis Farm gravel pit along Alpine Road. This is is a typical viewing location of the project site along this road. The existing tower is not visible even with the aid of 10X binoculars from this location. The transmission lines and access road along the valley floor would be slightly visible from this distance, but would not greatly alter the landscape character of the area. The junction boxes and underground utility installation on the top on New Pass Peak would introduce no visual impacts along the ridge line that wouldbe viewable by the public.

From this Key Observation Point (KOP) the viewshed can be divided into three distinct boundaries: the foreground, middle ground and background. The foreground consists of flat sandy soils sparsely populated with salt desert scrub with predominate colors of light yellow, and light tans. The middle ground is comprised of rolling hills covered with sage brush with a smooth to moderate texture and tan colors. The background consists of rugged terrain comprised of small ridges and canyons that provide dark and light contrasts from shadows with predominant colors of dark greens and grays.

Project: New Pass Peak Distribution EA	**Date:** 01/17/14
Evaluators: Bryan Morse	**Photo ID**: 02
Location ID: KOP 2	**Lens Focal Length**: 50 mm
View: facing southeast	**Waypoint ID**: 1
UTM East: 452402.446	**UTM North:** 4395851.978



Map created 4/2/2015 by msimons.

NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS
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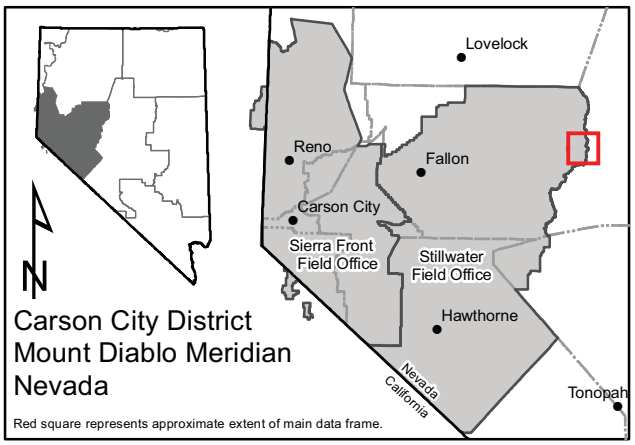
No warranty is made by the BLM as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use.

8 inch by 8 inch data frame represents:
1:100,000

0 4,000 8,000 16,000 Feet



Carson City District
Mount Diablo Meridian
Nevada

Red square represents approximate extent of main data frame.

N-93347 - VRM Photo Points

Proposed Electric Route 032415

Existing Power Lines

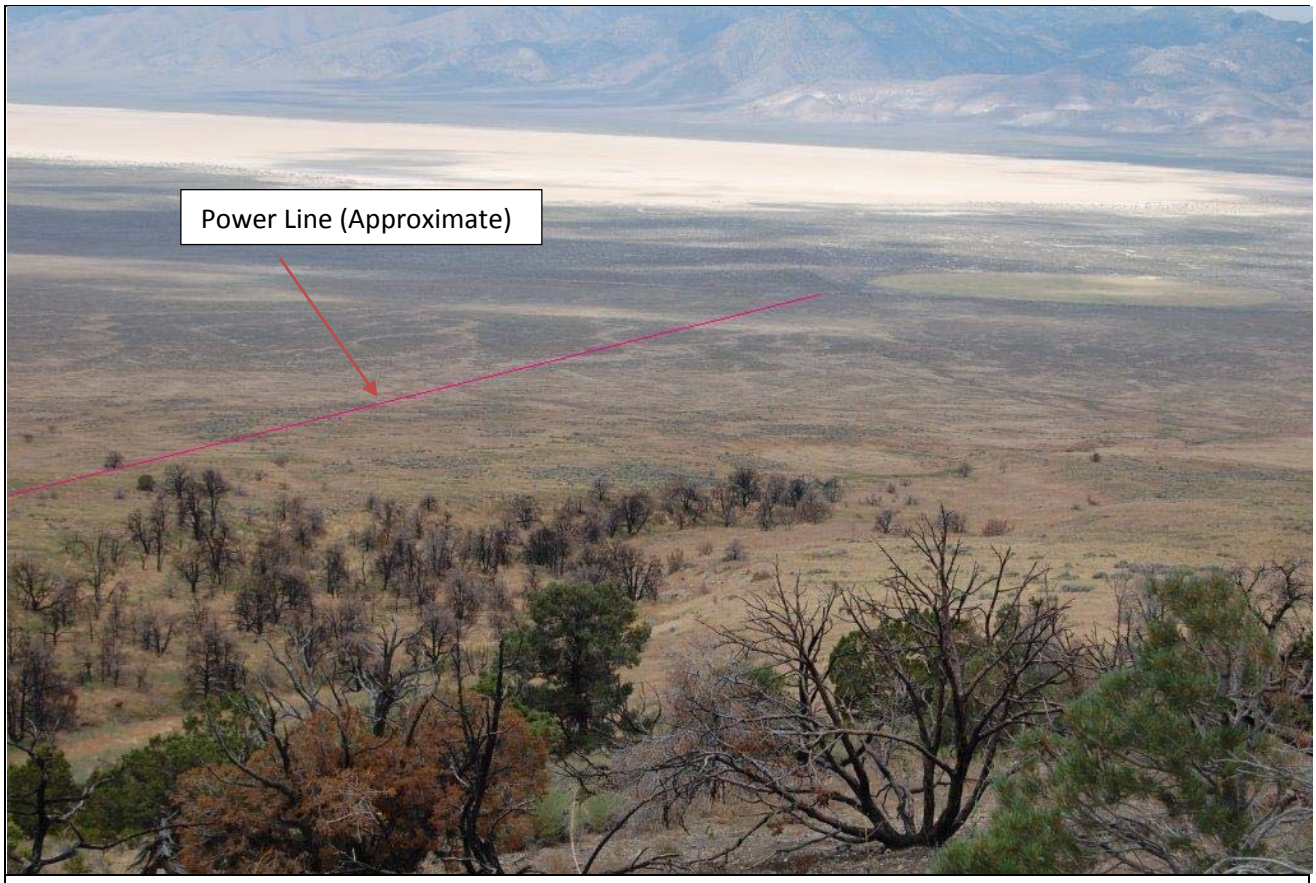
Transmission line

Distribution line

Surface Mgmt. Status

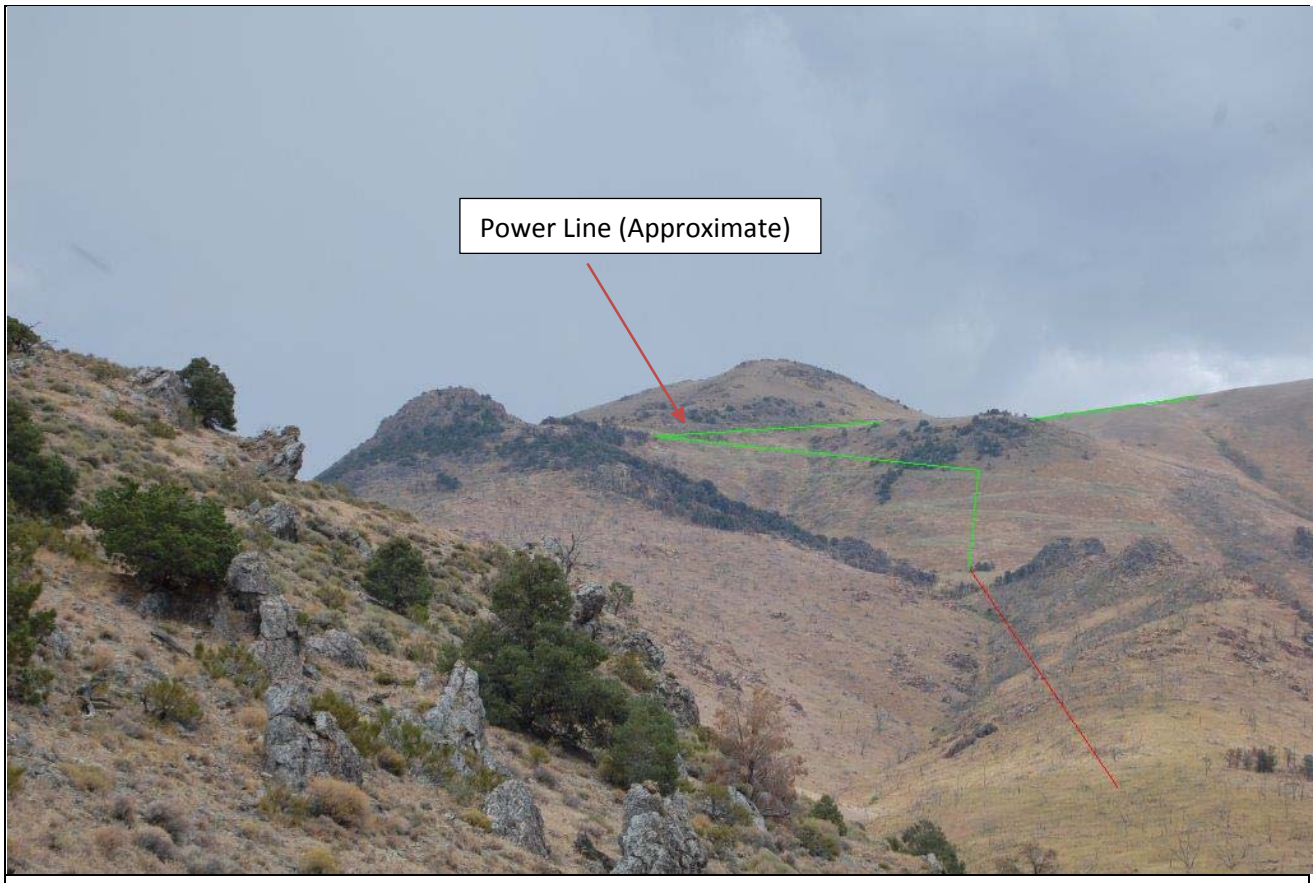
Private

All lands administered by the BLM unless otherwise indicated.



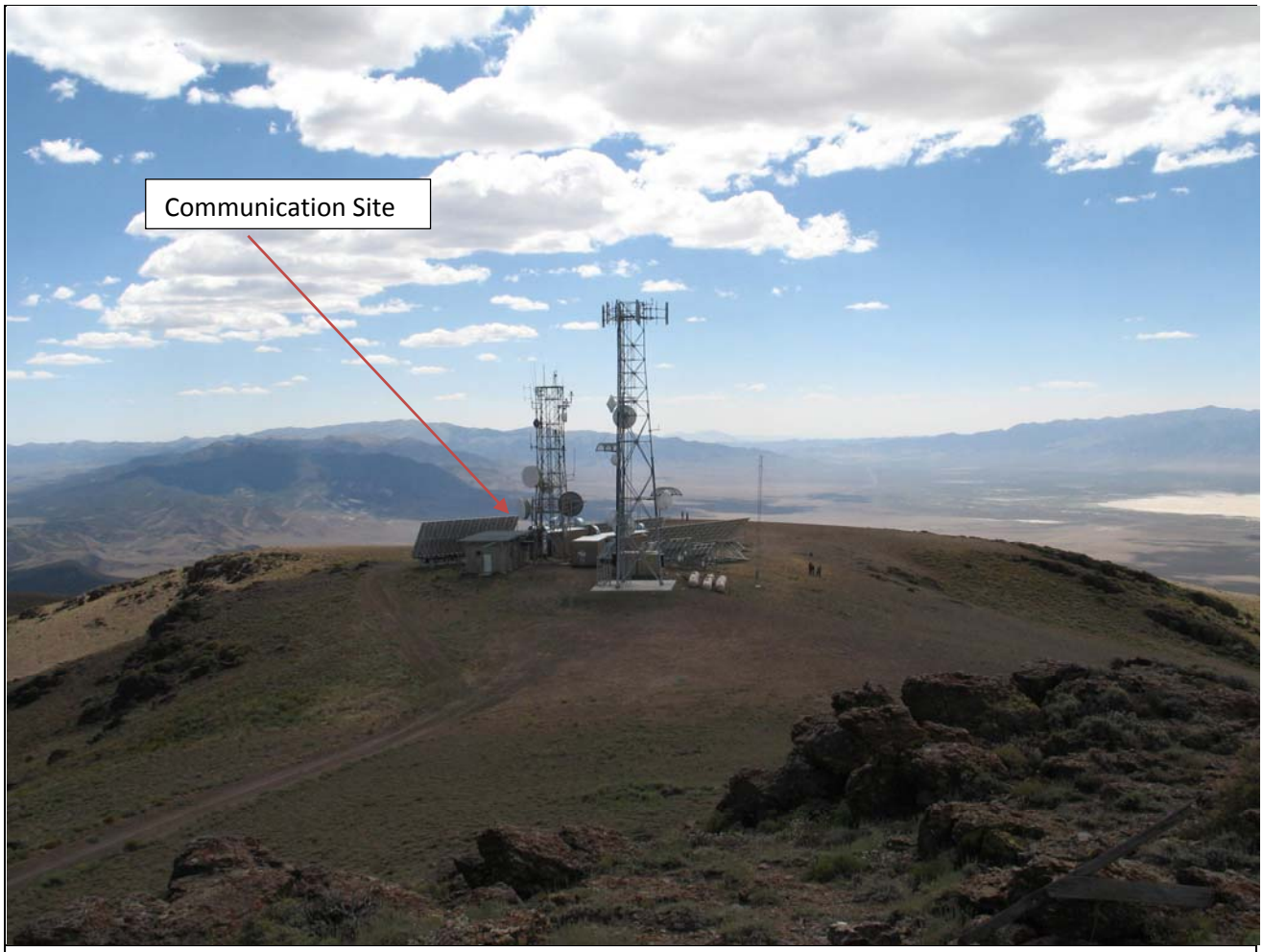
Proposed powerline alginment on Edward Creek Valley. Photograph facing southwest.

Project: New Pass Peak Distribution EA	**Date:** 2014
Evaluators: N/A	**Photo ID**: 03
Location ID: NA	**Lens Focal Length**: NA
View: facing southwest	**Waypoint ID**: NA
UTM East: NA	**UTM North:** NA



Proposed powerline alginment on New Pass Range. Photograph facing east.

Project: New Pass Peak Distribution EA	**Date:** 2014
Evaluators: N/A	**Photo ID**: 04
Location ID: NA	**Lens Focal Length**: NA
View: facing east	**Waypoint ID**: NA
UTM East: NA	**UTM North:** NA



Existing Communications Site and view of Edwards Creek Valley to the southwest. Photograph facing south.

Project: New Pass Peak Distribution EA	**Date:** 2014
Evaluators: N/A	**Photo ID**: 05
Location ID: NA	**Lens Focal Length**: NA
View: facing south	**Waypoint ID**: NA
UTM East: NA	**UTM North:** NA