

**United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management
Scenic Quality Field Inventory**

Date 8/23/05		
District California Desert		
Field Office Palm Springs		
Scenic Quality Rating Unit 09		
Viewpoint 13 : Red Cloud Road		
Evaluator(s) Michael Clayton		

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER			
	LANDFORM / WATER	VEGETATION	STRUCTURES
Form	Flat northern extent of the Chuckwalla Bench.	Irregular distribution of low growing grasses and shrubs punctuated by linear forms of ocotillo.	None, with the exception of the 4WD tracks comprising Red Cloud Road.
Line	Horizontal for the bench lands.	Irregular for individual shrubs and grasses. Vertical for ocotillo.	None (though curvilinear for the 4WD track).
Color	Light-tan soils.	Tan to pale-yellow grasses with tanish-gray to green shrubs and green ocotillo.	None.
Texture	Soils in the immediate foreground appear granular.	Medium grain to matte.	None

Narrative: SQRU 09 includes the northern portion of the Chuckwalla Bench between the Orocopia Mountains to the west and the Chuckwalla Mountains to the east. The bench lands of SQRU are relatively flat and non-descript with low growing grasses and some taller shrubs, punctuated by the vertical forms of ocotillo. Compared to SQRU 08 to the immediate north with its prominent utility infrastructure and presence of I-10, Unit 09 is natural appearing with minimal influence from built features. The angular forms of the Orocopia Mountains to the west and the Chuckwalla Mountains to the east add visual interest but are not part of this unit. At greater distance to the south and appearing very low on the horizon are the Chocolate Mountains.

Score					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION
	High	Medium	Low	Explanation or Rationale	
a. Landform			1		
b. Vegetation		3			
c. Water			0		
d. Color		2			
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		Orocopia Mountains, Chuckwalla Mountains	
f. Scarcity		2			
g. Cultural Modifications			0		
TOTALS	0	10	1	11	<input type="checkbox"/> A 19 or more <input type="checkbox"/> B 12 - 18 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C 11 or less