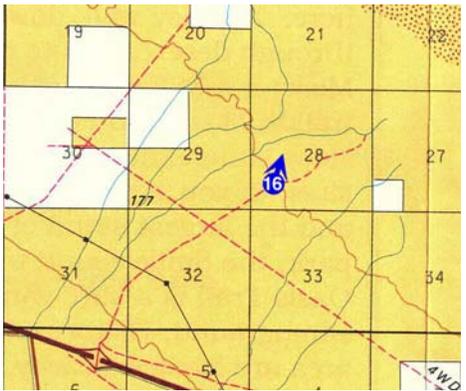


**United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management  
Scenic Quality Field Inventory**

<b>Date</b> 8/23/05		
<b>District</b> California Desert		
<b>Field Office</b> Palm Springs		
<b>Scenic Quality Rating Unit</b> <b>10</b>		
<b>Viewpoint</b> <b>16 : Palen Dry Lake Access</b>		
<b>Evaluator(s)</b> Michael Clayton		

<b>LANDSCAPE CHARACTER</b>			
	<b>LANDFORM / WATER</b>	<b>VEGETATION</b>	<b>STRUCTURES</b>
<b>Form</b>	Predominantly flat valley floor. More distant Palen Mountains (not part of the unit) provide a backdrop that adds visual interest.	Consistent distribution of low growing grasses interspersed with occasional individual shrubs.	None (though strip of bladed road is prominent when viewing in-line with the road).
<b>Line</b>	Horizontal for the valley floor. Curvilinear for the access road (not pictured).	Irregular for individual shrubs. Horizontal to curvilinear as demarcated by valley floor and bladed road.	None (though curvilinear for the bladed 4WD track).
<b>Color</b>	Light-tan soils.	Tan to pale- and golden-yellow grasses with muted greens for the shrubs.	None.
<b>Texture</b>	Soils appear smooth to granular	Smooth to medium grain to matte.	None

**Narrative:** The eastern portion of SQRU 10 encompasses the eastern portion of Chuckwalla Valley north of I-10 in the vicinity of Palen and Ford Dry Lakes. Although the Palen Mountains and the Palen McCoy Wilderness provide a backdrop of visual interest, these features are beyond the Unit 10 boundary. Unit 10 is flat and relatively non-descript with low growing grasses and few shrubs. Unlike Unit 12 immediately to the south, the majority of the eastern portion of the Unit 10 landscape is not substantially influenced by built cultural features (structures) though 4-wheel drive access roads within the unit are noticeable when traveling one.

<b>Score</b>					<b>SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION</b>
	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Explanation or Rationale</b>	
<b>a. Landform</b>			1	Flat valley floor	
<b>b. Vegetation</b>			1	Relatively uniform vegetation	
<b>c. Water</b>			0		
<b>d. Color</b>			1	Monotone	
<b>e. Adjacent Scenery</b>		3		Palen Mountains	
<b>f. Scarcity</b>			1		
<b>g. Cultural Modifications</b>			0	Access road is noticeable	
<b>TOTALS</b>	0	3	4	<b>7</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> A 19 or more <input type="checkbox"/> B 12 - 18 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C 11 or less