

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

Date 8/19/05		
District California Desert		
Field Office Palm Springs		
Scenic Quality Rating Unit 04		
Viewpoint 7 : Box Canyon Road		
Evaluator(s) Michael Clayton		

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER			
	LANDFORM / WATER	VEGETATION	STRUCTURES
Form	Broad, flat valley floor. More distant mountains (not part of the unit) provide a partial backdrop and add visual interest.	The irregular clumps of low shrubs and grass transition to an indistinct and uniform distribution at distance with a mottled appearance.	Linear to structurally complex (transmission towers). Structures appear more visually prominent in foreground views.
Line	Horizontal for the valley floor.	Irregular defined by individuals and clumps in the immediate foreground.	Vertical to diagonal (transmission towers).
Color	Light-tan soils	Yellowish-tan to gray grasses and light- to dark-green shrubs.	Gray
Texture	Soils in the immediate foreground appear smooth to granular.	Smooth to medium grain and uneven and random in the immediate foreground. Smooth to coarse with more even distribution at distance.	Smooth

Narrative: This SQRU encompasses that portion of Shavers Valley extending approximately 1.5 to 2 miles north and south of Interstate 10 (I-10) between the Cactus City Rest Stop and Chiriaco Summit. The valley bottom is flat and relatively non-descript with low growing grasses and shrubs. Distant, rugged mountain ridgelines (not part of the unit) define much of the horizon and provide a backdrop to much of this unit. SQRU 04 is transected by several noticeable built features including I-10 down the middle of the valley, transmission lines on both the north and south sides of the freeway, utility pole lines and fences, and local roads (Box Canyon Road to the south and Cottonwood Springs Road to the north). This portion of Unit 04 is more influenced by the close proximity of a transmission line than that portion represented by Viewpoint 6.

Score					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION
	High	Medium	Low	Explanation or Rationale	
a. Landform			1		
b. Vegetation		2			
c. Water			0		
d. Color		3			
e. Adjacent Scenery		3			
f. Scarcity		2			
g. Cultural Modifications			-3	Prominent Transmission Line	
TOTALS	0	10	-2	8	

A 19 or more
 B 12 - 18
 C 11 or less