

**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 07		
Viewpoint 11 : Hayfield Rd. Off-ramp		
Evaluator(s) Michael Clayton		

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER			
	LANDFORM / WATER	VEGETATION	STRUCTURES
Form	Broad, flat valley floor and alluvial fans transitioning to rugged mountains.	The irregular clumps of low shrubs and grass transition to an indistinct and more uniform distribution at distance with a mottled appearance.	Linear (utility poles) to structurally complex (transmission towers). Utility poles are visually prominent in foreground.
Line	Horizontal for the valley floor. Irregular to curvilinear for mountain foothills and ridgelines.	Irregular defined by individuals and clumps in the immediate foreground. Horizontal to curvilinear lines defined by transition between valley floor and mountains and access road.	Vertical to horizontal (utility poles and fences); Vertical to diagonal (transmission towers).
Color	Light-tan to gray foreground soils. Brown to bluish tones for foothills and more distant mountains.	Yellowish-tan grasses and light- to dark-green shrubs with some gray shrub branches.	Brown to gray
Texture	Soils in the immediate foreground appear smooth to granular. More distant hills and mountains 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: SQRU 07 encompasses the southern portion of Chuckwalla Valley extending from I-10 and the southern boundary of SQRU 06 south to the Orocopia Mountains and Chuckwalla Bench. The valley bottom and alluvial fans are flat and relatively non-descript with low growing grasses and shrubs. However, the southern portion of this unit transitions into rugged foothills and ridges. Compared to Unit 06 to the north of I-10, Unit 07 is more influenced by rugged mountainous features and built structures. While the visual variety of Unit 07 is enhanced by the variation in terrain characteristics, the overall scenic quality is compromised by the substantial presence of utility infrastructure.

Score					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION
	High	Medium	Low	Explanation or Rationale	
a. Landform		3		Orocopia Mountains	
b. Vegetation		2			
c. Water			0		
d. Color		3			
e. Adjacent Scenery	4			Orocopia Mountains Wilderness	
f. Scarcity		3			
g. Cultural Modifications			-4	Utility and transmission lines	
TOTALS	4	11	0	11	<input type="checkbox"/> A 19 or more <input type="checkbox"/> B 12 - 18 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C 11 or less