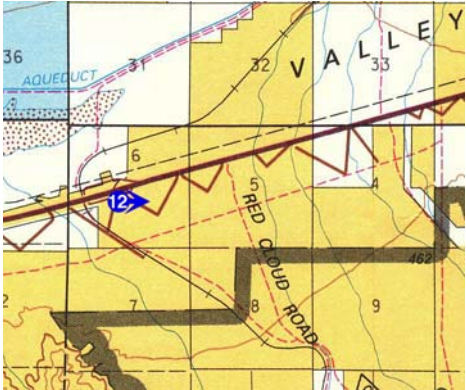



**United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management
Scenic Quality Field Inventory**

Date 8/19/05		
District California Desert		
Field Office Palm Springs		
Scenic Quality Rating Unit 08		
Viewpoint 12 : Red Cloud Road		
Evaluator(s) Michael Clayton		

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER			
	LANDFORM / WATER	VEGETATION	STRUCTURES
Form	Flat valley floor. More distant Chuckwalla Mountains (not part of the unit) provide a backdrop that adds visual interest.	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 infrastructure is visually prominent.
Line	Horizontal for the valley floor and the nearby berms.	Irregular defined by individuals and clumps in the immediate foreground and terrain variations beyond.	Vertical to horizontal (utility poles); Vertical to horizontal to diagonal (transmission towers).
Color	Light-tan to gray foreground soils.	Yellowish-tan grasses and light- to dark-green shrubs with some gray shrub branches.	Brown to gray
Texture	Soils 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 08 encompasses a narrow portion of Chuckwalla Valley along the south side of I-10 between SQR Units 06 (to the north) and 09 (to the south). Although the Chuckwalla Mountains provide a backdrop of visual interest, Unit 08 is flat and relatively non-descript with low growing grasses and shrubs. Compared to Unit 09 to the immediate south, the Unit 08 landscape is substantially more impacted by built utility infrastructure and less influenced by bordering mountains and ridges.

Score					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION
	High	Medium	Low	Explanation or Rationale	
a. Landform			1	Flat valley floor	
b. Vegetation		2			
c. Water			0		
d. Color		3			
e. Adjacent Scenery		3		Chuckwalla Mountains backdrop	
f. Scarcity		2			
g. Cultural Modifications			-4	Utility and transmission lines	
TOTALS	0	10	-3	7	

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