



Existing Scenic Integrity: High, with Areas of Very Low. This existing landscape view is from the Mount Gleason Road, about three miles west of Mill Creek Summit, looking southeast down toward Segment 6. The PCT, west of Mill Creek Summit, shares much of this same viewshed. The landscape visible from Mount Gleason Road is predominantly natural-appearing, consisting of foreground, middleground, and background landscapes with dense, dark green chamise and chaparral covered mountainsides. There is very little vegetative pattern in this landscape and the sun angle and shadows emphasize the ruggedness of the steep slopes and broken terrain. The natural landscape has a coherent form and character with substantial visual variety created by the rugged, folded terrain. The natural landscape exhibits a high degree of intactness and scenic integrity, except for the highly discordant transmission line conductors that glow with reflected sunlight, leading the eye to the almost transparent, industrial-character steel lattice towers. Access and spur roads to the existing towers are visually evident and further emphasize the reflectivity of the conductors, causing the valued landscape character to appear heavily altered. This leads to a rating of very low scenic integrity for the utility corridor.

Scenic Integrity Objective: High. In the 2005 Forest Plan, the entire landscape in this vicinity is mapped as High SIO, where the management direction states that human activities should not be visually evident. Human-caused deviations may be present but must repeat the form, line, color, texture, and pattern common to the natural landscape character so completely and at such a scale that they are not evident.

Figure 3.14-18a
Existing Conditions
for KOP-Center-3
Mount Gleason Road
(Alternative 2, Segment 6)

Source: Lee Anderson, 2007.