

Box Springs Communication Site

Overview

The site is located in the Box Springs Mountains, approximately 0.50 mile northwest of the City of Moreno Valley. The site houses a major communication complex that consists of numerous towers spread over several ridges. An existing County communication facility is located on the site. The proposed project will replace the existing tower and equipment shelter with upgraded facilities.

Table 1: Box Springs Communication Site

Latitude ¹	Longitude ¹	Elev ²	Address	T/R/S ³	APN ⁴	USGS Quadrangle
33°57'42.4"	117°16'50.6"	3,080	11030 Box Springs Mountain Road, Riverside, CA 92557	2S 4W Sec. 27	256-030-006	Riverside East
1 – All coordinates utilize NAD83 datum 2 – All elevations in feet above mean sea level 3 – Township/Range/Section (San Bernardino Base Meridian)				4 – All Assessors Parcel Numbers are located in Riverside County, unless noted: OC = Orange County; SD = San Diego County; SB = San Bernardino County		

Surrounding Land Uses

The site sits atop a prominent mountain topped with a major communication complex, consisting of numerous towers spread over several ridges. The mountainous and hilly area surrounding the communication facilities is largely comprised of open space. At the base of the mountain there is substantial urban development extending to the south, west, and east. This urban area includes the cities of Moreno Valley and Riverside. From the project site, the Box Springs Mountain Reserve extends northwards approximately 3 miles and is comprised of open space and recreation areas.

Topography and Vegetation

The area is hilly and mountainous. The site itself is highly disturbed due to the existing and long-established communication facilities. The surrounding area contains vegetation characteristic of coastal sage scrub and chaparral plant communities such as brittlebush, California buckwheat, California sagebrush, and Mexican elderberry. Much of the vegetative composition is non-native grasses and weeds, most likely due to frequent fire events and conversion from sage scrub vegetation to non-native grassland.

Land Ownership and Applicable Habitat/Land Management Plan

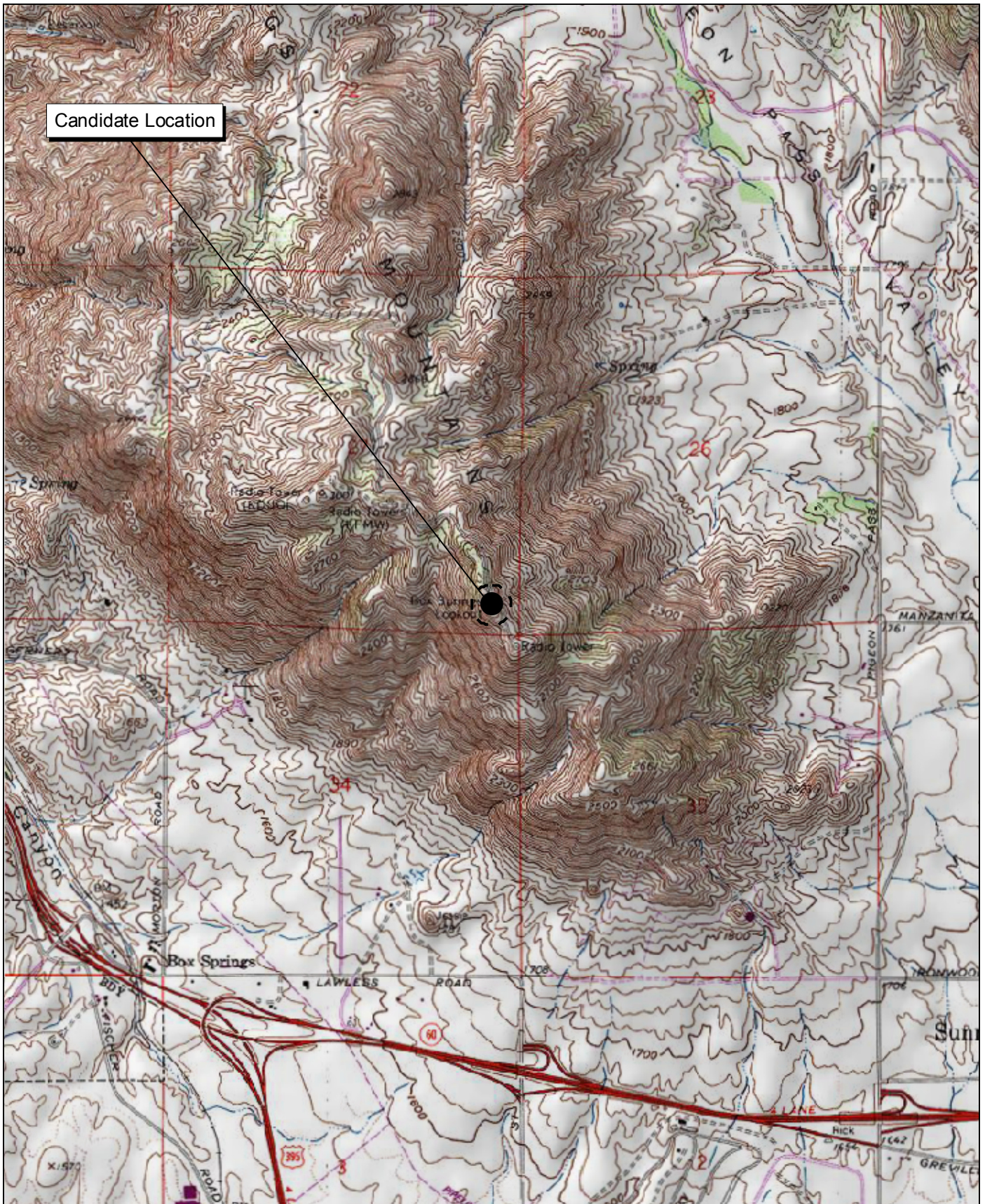
The site is owned and operated by the County of Riverside and is subject to the WRMSHCP. The site is located within the “Reche Canyon/Badlands” Area Plan, SU-1 Sycamore Canyon/Box Springs Sub-unit, and falls within Criteria Cell 640.

Road Access

A dirt road leads from the base of the mountain to the existing communication facilities atop the mountain.

Commercial Power Access

Commercial power is already available at the site and serves the existing communication facilities.



Source: USGS Riverside East 7.5' Topographic Map.

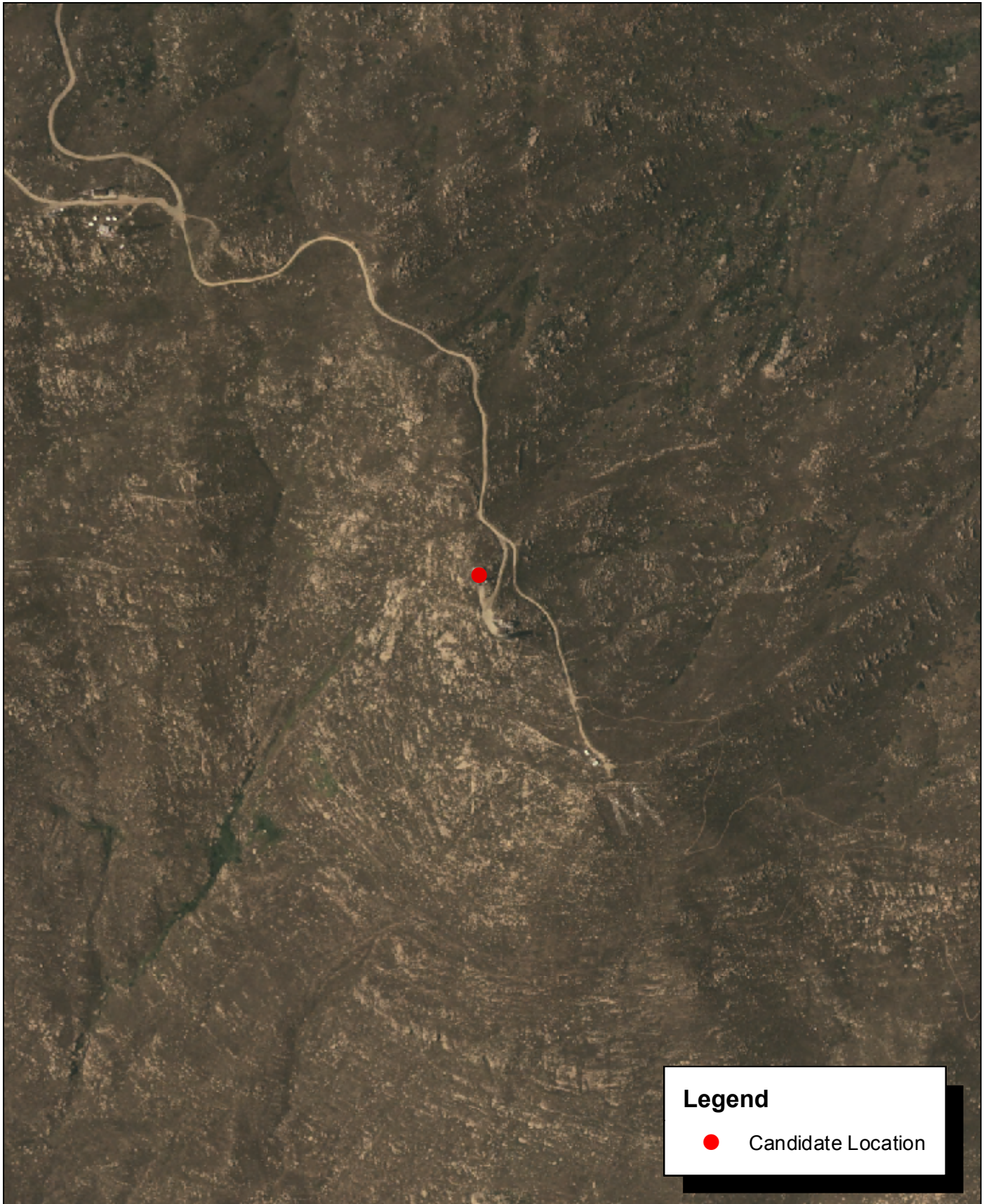


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Box Springs Communication Site Local Vicinity Topographic Map

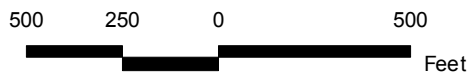
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
PUBLIC SAFETY ENTERPRISE COMMUNICATION PROJECT



Source: Riverside County NAIP, 2005.



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Box Springs Communication Site Local Vicinity Aerial Map

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COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
PUBLIC SAFETY ENTERPRISE COMMUNICATION PROJECT



Photograph 1: View toward Box Springs candidate location, facing east.



Photograph 2: View toward Box Springs candidate location, facing northwest.



Photograph 3: View toward Box Springs candidate location, facing south.



Photograph 4: View toward Box Springs candidate location, facing north.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.



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Box Springs Candidate Photographs 1 to 4
PSEC Project



Photograph 5: View from Box Springs candidate location, facing east.



Photograph 6: View from Box Springs candidate location, facing south.



Photograph 7: View from Box Springs candidate location, facing southwest.



Photograph 8: View from Box Springs candidate location, facing northwest.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.



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Box Springs Candidate Photographs 5 to 8
PSEC Project