### **El Cariso Communication Site**

#### Overview

The site is located in Orange County in the Cleveland National Forest (CNF) at a U.S. Forest Service (USFS) administrative site known as the El Cariso Hotshot Camp. The site is located off FS 6S05, and is approximately 1.50 miles from Highway 74 (Ortega Highway).

**Table 1: El Cariso Communication Site** 

Latitude <sup>1</sup>	Longitude <sup>1</sup>	Elev <sup>2</sup>	Address	T/R/S <sup>3</sup>	APN⁴	USGS Quadrangle	
33°38'44.1"	117°26'39.0"	3,070	39241 Ortega Highway, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530	6S 5W Sec. 18	125-120-12 (OC)	Alberhill	
1 – All coordinat	es utilize NAD83 da	ıtum	4 – All	4 – All Assessors Parcel Numbers are located in			

- 2 All elevations in feet above mean sea level
- 3 Township/Range/Section (San Bernardino Base Meridian)
- Riverside County, unless noted: OC = Orange County; SD = San Diego County; SB = San Bernardino County

# **Surrounding Land Uses**

The site is located in a rural portion of the CNF, immediately adjacent to the El Cariso Hotshot Camp. The camp serves as a fire station and a residential compound. The McConville Nudist Camp lies approximately 0.75 mile east of the site, and an Orange County youth correctional facility is approximately 0.50 mile west of the site. A water pumping station and a small communication tower operated by the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District is located approximately 200 feet east of the project site.

#### **Topography and Vegetation**

The site lies within the Santa Ana Mountains and is surrounded by hills and mountains in all directions. Vegetation in the surrounding area is typical of dense chaparral communities. The site itself is a graded area that has been highly disturbed. The vegetation at the site consists of a disturbed stand of various mature, planted trees. The tree species observed included lemon, incense cedar, ponderosa pine, and coast live oak. A stand of bamboo also grows on the site. Sparse occurrences of young shrubs are also present on the site, including plant species such as manzanita, California buckwheat, deerweed, and chaparral yucca.

#### Land Ownership and Applicable Habitat/Land Management Plan

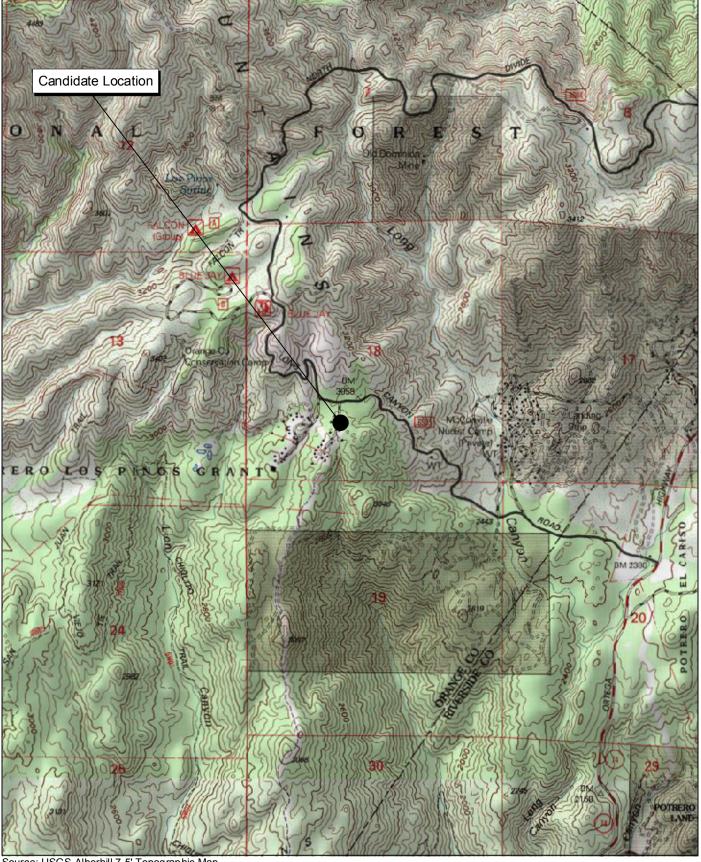
The site is located on federal land managed by the USFS. The site is subject to the Cleveland National Forest Management Plan.

#### Road Access

A paved road leads directly to the site.

## **Commercial Power Access**

Commercial power is already present on the property.



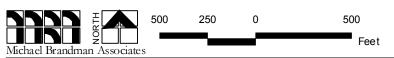
Source: USGS Alberhill 7.5' Topographic Map.



El Cariso Communication Site Local Vicinity Topographic Map



Source: Riverside County NAIP, 2005.



El Cariso Communication Site Local Vicinity Aerial Map



Photograph 1: Overview of El Cariso Hot Shot candidate location, facing east.



Photograph 3: View toward El Cariso Hot Shot candidate location, facing west.



Photograph 2: Overview of El Cariso Hot Shot candidate location, facing southeast.



Photograph 4: View toward El Cariso Hot Shot candidate location, facing northwest.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.





Photograph 5: View from El Cariso Hot Shot candidate location, facing southeast.



Photograph 7: View from El Cariso Hot Shot candidate location, facing north.



Photograph 6: View from El Cariso Hot Shot candidate location, facing northeast.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.

