

Elsinore Peak Communication Site

Overview

The site is located in the Cleveland National Forest (CNF) atop Elsinore Peak in the Elsinore Mountains, approximately 5 miles southwest of Lake Elsinore and approximately 1.50 miles southeast of the community of Rancho Capistrano. An existing County telecommunication facility is located at the site. The proposed project will replace the existing facility with an upgraded tower and equipment structure.

Table 1: Elsinore Peak Communication Site

Latitude ¹	Longitude ¹	Elev ²	Address	T/R/S ³	APN ⁴	USGS Quadrangle
33°36'08.2"	117°20'35.9"	3,557	35607 Forestry Road, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530	6S 4W Sec. 31	382-090-004	Wildomar
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 is located in a rural portion of the CNF, approximately 1.50 miles southeast of the community of Rancho Capistrano. The surrounding area is open space and is used for recreational purposes. The Wildomar Trailhead and Campground lies approximately 1.50 miles south of the site along Wildomar Road (FS 7S04). The site itself is part of a major communication complex comprised of approximately six communication towers.

Topography and Vegetation

The site is located at the highpoint of the Elsinore Mountains, and is surrounded by hills and mountains in all directions. The site itself is a graded area that has been highly disturbed due to activities associated with the existing communication facility. The vast majority of the site contains no vegetation, as it occurs on a graded pad within a fenced communication facility. The vegetation in the surrounding area consists of sparse, disturbance-associated plant species such as black mustard, filaree, and non-native grasses such as vulpia and wild oat. Various sprouting native plant species are also sparsely scattered across the pad, including Davidson’s buckwheat, California aster, and deerweed. The vegetation beyond the communication facilities along the slopes consists of a coastal sage scrub plant community that transitions into an adjacent, low growing, mixed chaparral plant community to the east. The plant species in the coastal sage scrub community include black sage, deerweed, California buckwheat, chaparral yucca, and sawtooth goldenbush. The larger, continuous, mixed chaparral community located to the southeast of the site area functions as a scrub community with low-growing, spaced vegetation. The predominant plant species include chamise, hoary-leaf ceanothus, manzanita, mountain mahogany, California coffeeberry, chaparral yucca, and black sage.

Land Ownership and Applicable Habitat/Land Management Plan

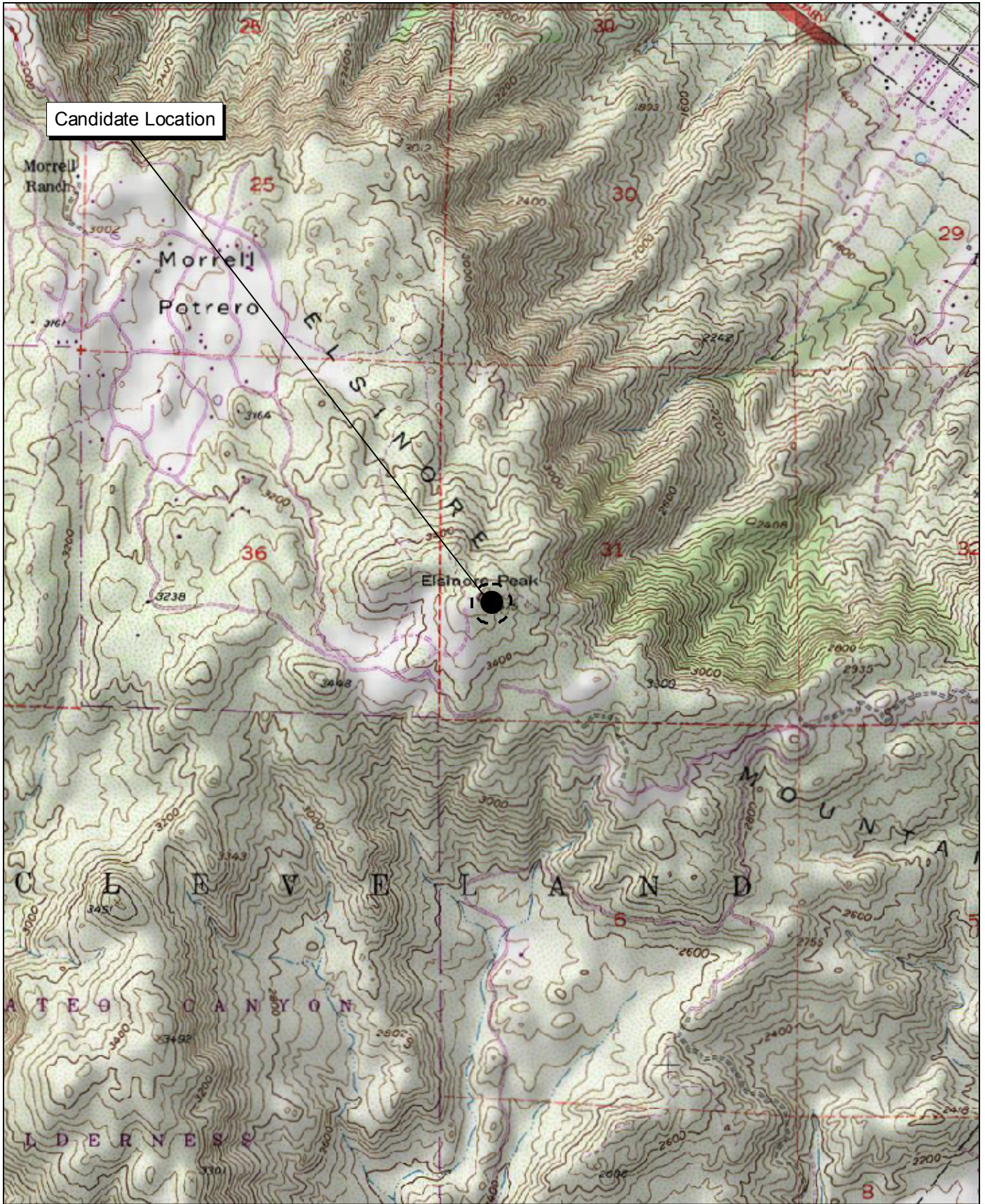
The site is located on federal land managed by the USFS and is subject to the Cleveland National Forest Management Plan. The site is also located within Critical Habitat for Munz's onion.

Road Access

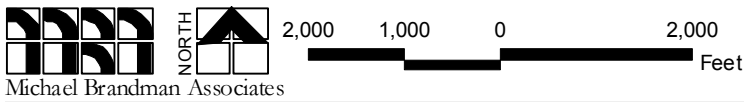
A dirt road leads directly to the site.

Commercial Power Access

Commercial power is already present on the property.



Source: USGS Wildomar 7.5' Topographic Map.



Michael Brandman Associates
 27490003 • 04/2008 | elsinore_peak.mxd

Elsinore Peak Communication Site Local Vicinity Topographic Map

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
 PUBLIC SAFETY ENTERPRISE COMMUNICATION PROJECT



Legend

● Candidate Location

Source: Riverside County NAIP, 2005.

Michael Brandman Associates

Elsinore Peak Communication Site Local Vicinity Aerial Map



Photograph 1: View toward Elsinore Peak candidate location, facing east.



Photograph 2: View toward Elsinore Peak candidate location, facing west.



Photograph 3: View toward Elsinore Peak candidate location, facing northeast.



Photograph 4: View toward Elsinore Peak candidate location, facing south.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.





Photograph 5: View from Elsinore Peak candidate location, facing north.



Photograph 6: View from Elsinore Peak candidate location, facing west.



Photograph 7: View from Elsinore Peak candidate location, facing south.



Photograph 8: View from Elsinore Peak candidate location, facing east.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.



Michael Brandman Associates

27490003 • 02/2008 | Elsinore Peak_Photo2.doc

Elsinore Peak Candidate Photographs 5 to 8
PSEC Project