

**Rice Communication Site**

**Overview**

The site is located adjacent to an existing communication tower, approximately 600 feet south of State Route 62, 1 mile east of the abandoned Rice airfield, and 15 miles southwest of Vidal Junction. The proposed project would place a tower and an equipment shelter at the site.

**Table 1: Rice Communication Site**

Latitude <sup>1</sup>	Longitude <sup>1</sup>	Elev <sup>2</sup>	Address	T/R/S <sup>3</sup>	APN <sup>4</sup>	USGS Quadrangle
34°04'45.2"	114°47'07.4"	916	21921 Highway 62, Desert Center, CA 92239	1S, 21E, Sec. 21	801-080-003	Rice
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 desert area. State Route 62 (Highway 62) lies approximately 600 feet north of the site, followed by the Santa Fe Railroad and the Colorado River Aqueduct to the north of the highway. An existing communication tower lies 600 feet west of the site, and another, larger tower lies approximately 0.25 mile to the east. A power line parallels the highway and the pole line and its service road form the northern boundary of the site. The abandoned Rice airfield, last operational in the 1950s, lies approximately 1 mile to the west and southwest of the site. South of the site lies the Rice Valley, extending approximately 12 miles southward to the Big Maria and the Little Maria Mountains.

**Topography and Vegetation**

The site is flat and is located in an expansive valley that extends for several miles in all directions. The site is located in an undisturbed, but sparsely vegetated creosote bush scrub plant community. Plant species include creosote bush, burro-weed, and beavertail cactus.

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

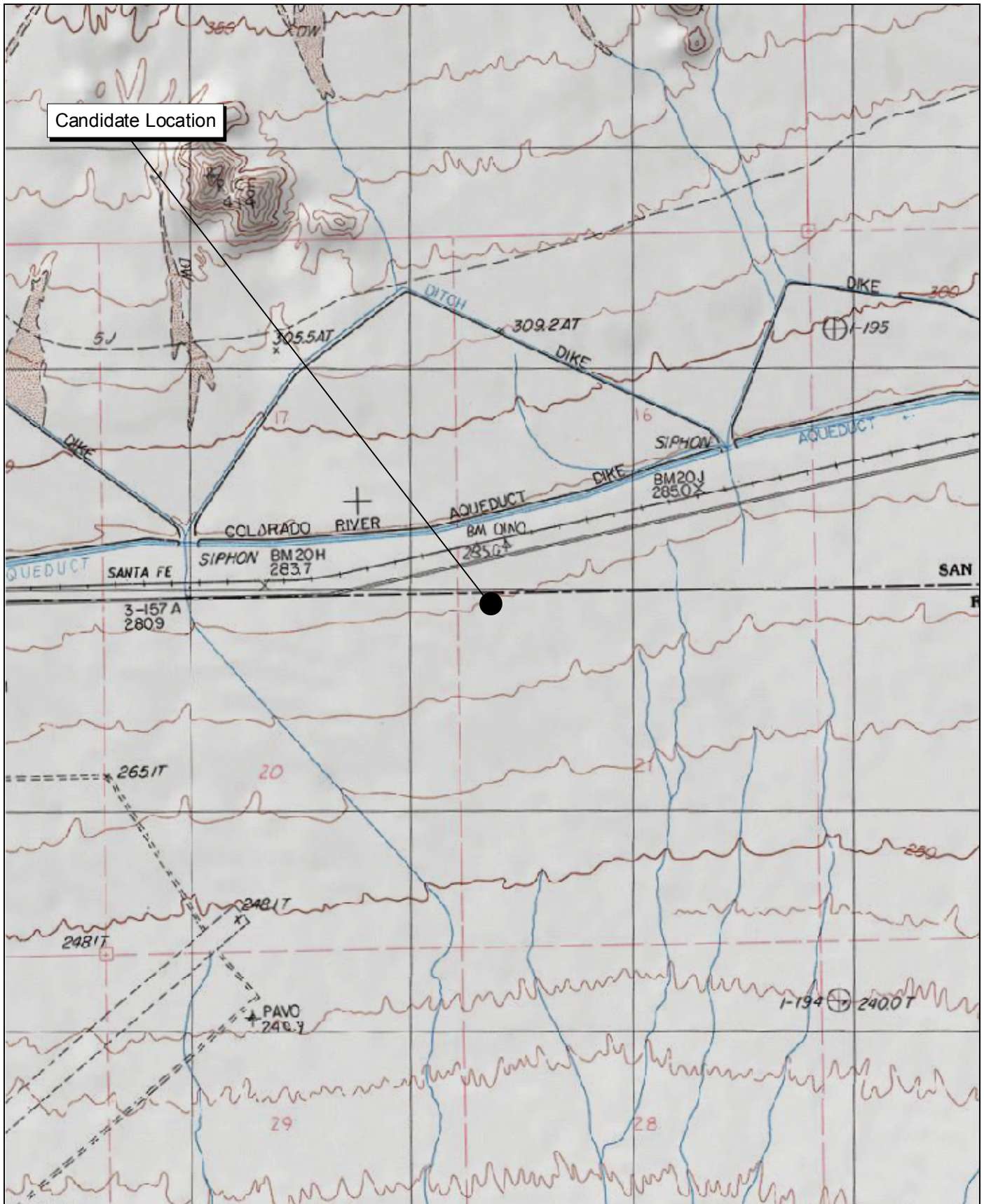
The site is located on federal land managed by the South Coast/Palm Springs Field Office of the BLM and is subject to the NECD of the California Desert Conservation Area Plan.

**Road Access**

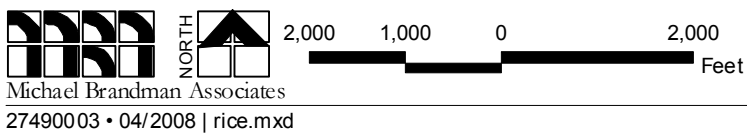
The existing power line service road forms the northern boundary of the site. A short spur road measuring less than 100 feet will need to be constructed to provide access into the site itself.

**Commercial Power Access**

Commercial power is available from the electrical pole line that runs along the northern boundary of the site.



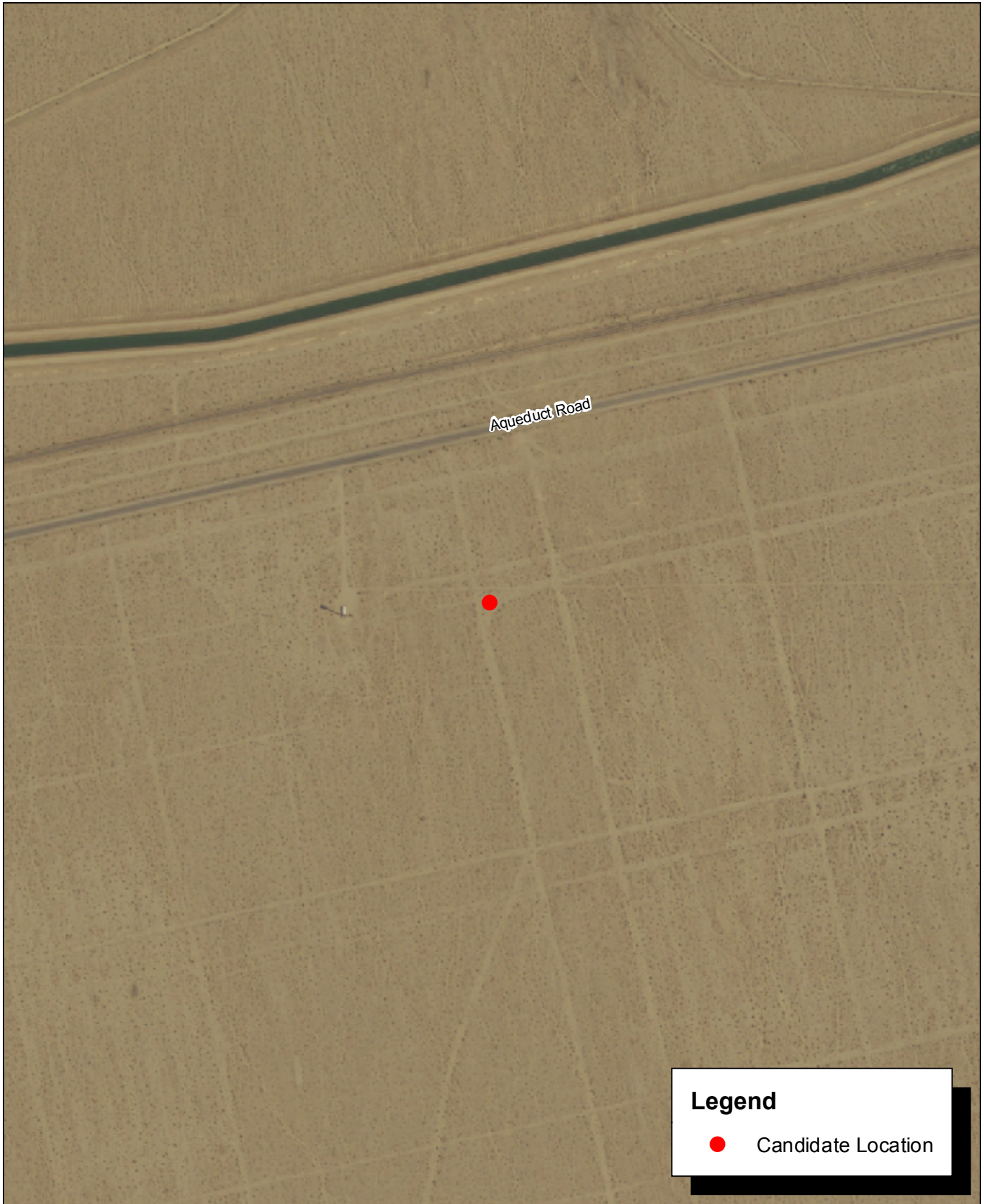
Source: USGS Rice 7.5' Topographic Map.



## Rice Communication Site Local Vicinity Topographic Map

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE  
PUBLIC SAFETY ENTERPRISE COMMUNICATION PROJECT





Source: Riverside County NAIP, 2005.



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## Rice Communication Site Local Vicinity Aerial Map

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE  
PUBLIC SAFETY ENTERPRISE COMMUNICATION PROJECT



Photograph 1: View toward Rice candidate location, facing northwest.



Photograph 2: View toward Rice candidate location, facing north.



Photograph 3: View toward Rice candidate location, facing east.



Photograph 4: View toward Rice candidate location, facing south.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.



Michael Brandman Associates  
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Rice Candidate Photographs 1 to 4  
PSEC Project





Photograph 5: View from Rice candidate location, facing north.



Photograph 6: View from Rice candidate location, facing east.



Photograph 7: View from Rice candidate location, facing south.



Photograph 8: View from Rice candidate location, facing west.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.



Michael Brandman Associates  
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Rice Candidate Photographs 5 to 8  
PSEC Project