

Wileys Well Communication Site

Overview

The site is located adjacent to an existing communication tower, approximately 0.25 mile south of Interstate 10 and immediately west of Wiley Well Road, approximately 18 miles west of Blythe. The proposed project will place a tower and equipment shelter at the site.

Table 1: Wileys Well Communication Site

Latitude ¹	Longitude ¹	Elev ²	Address	T/R/S ³	APN ⁴	USGS Quadrangle
33°36'18.5"	114°54'09.3"	391	13175 Wileys Well Road, Desert Center, CA 92239	6S, 20E, Sec. 33	818-112-004	Hopkins Well
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. An existing cellular communication tower lies immediately north of the site, and Interstate 10 lies approximately 0.25 mile further north. The Wileys Well Rest Stop is located immediately north of the freeway. Wileys Well Road forms the eastern boundary of the site. This road continues southward for several miles to the Chuckwalla Valley State prison. South of the site is an older, shallow borrow pit that is now largely overgrown with tamarisk. West of the site is open desert.

Topography and Vegetation

The site is located on a flat desert valley floor. Chuckwalla Valley is actually a depression and an enclosed drainage basin. Any drainage from the surrounding mountains to the north, south, east, and west of the site drains to Ford Dry Lake, which is located approximately 4 miles northwest of the site. The Chuckwalla Valley is known for drifting sands, which form small sand features throughout the valley. The site itself has been subjected to some disturbance during the construction of the immediately adjacent communication tower, but could still be considered relatively intact. The vegetation on the site is comprised of a sparse, creosote bush plant community. The plant species include creosote bush and sparse occurrences of dead annual plants. The borrow pit located south of the site supports a dense grove of tamarisk, with scattered creosote bush and burro-bush.

Land Ownership and Applicable Habitat/Land Management Plan

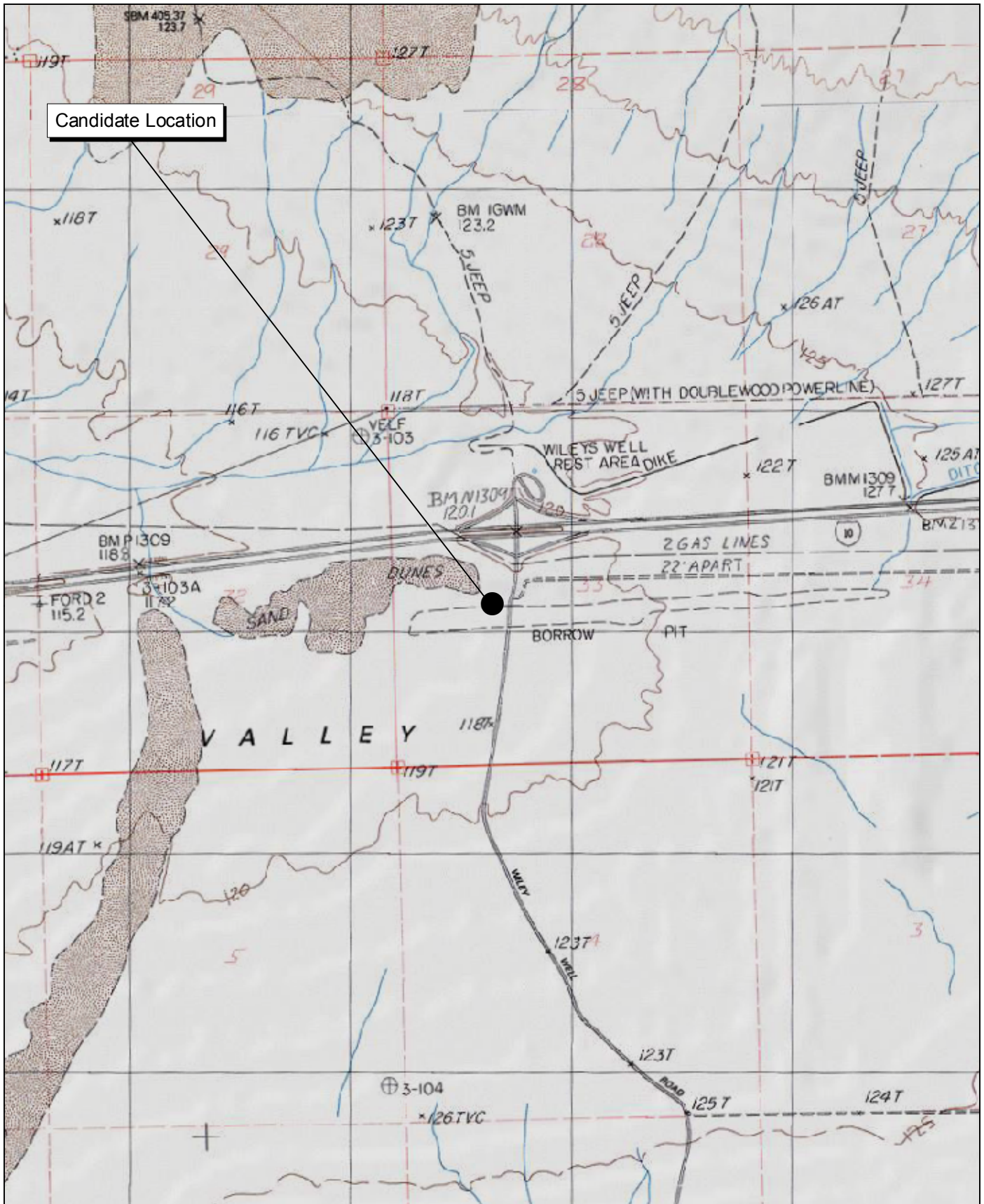
The site is located on federal land managed by the BLM. The site is managed by the South Coast/Palm Springs Field Office of the BLM and is subject to the NECD of the California Desert Conservation Area Plan. The site is also located within Critical Habitat for desert tortoise, as designated by the USFWS.

Road Access

An existing dirt road leads to the adjacent communication facility, and can provide access to the site.

Commercial Power Access

Commercial power is available at the existing cellular site, approximately 100 feet from the proposed site.



Source: USGS Hopkins Well 7.5' Topographic Map.



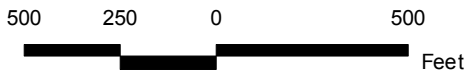
Wileys Well Communication Site Local Vicinity Topographic Map



Source: Riverside County NAIP, 2005.



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Wileys Well Communication Site Local Vicinity Aerial Map

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Photograph 1: View toward Wileys Well candidate location, facing west.



Photograph 2: View toward Wileys Well candidate location, facing north.



Photograph 3: View toward Wileys Well candidate location, facing east.



Photograph 4: View toward Wileys Well candidate location, facing south.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.





Photograph 5: View from Wileys Well candidate location, facing north.



Photograph 6: View from Wileys Well candidate location, facing east.



Photograph 7: View from Wileys Well candidate location, facing south.



Photograph 8: View from Wileys Well candidate location, facing west.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.



Michael Brandman Associates

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Wileys Well Candidate Photographs 5 to 8
PSEC Project