
Line

The Line study area is located in Riverside County on the northeastern shore of the Salton Sea. The study area has a 300-foot radius to account for the guy wires of the proposed 330-foot tall tower structure.

Existing Conditions

General Site Conditions

The study area is approximately 1,000 feet west of the Salton Sea, on a wide and generally flat plain. Various eroded gullies, perpendicular to the shoreline, occur at 400-foot intervals across the study area. The elevation of the study area is approximately 199 feet below sea level. The soils present consist of Imperial-gullied land complex, based on the USDA soil surveys. Surface layer salt deposits were observed across the study area during the reconnaissance-level survey. Land use in the vicinity consists of the Salton Sea State Recreational Area to the west, open space to the north and south, and State Route 111 to the east. The study area is subject to disturbance associated with off-road vehicle use.

Vegetation

The vegetation on the study area constitutes a sparse, alkali desert scrub plant community. The plant species observed include burro-weed (*Ambrosia dumosa*) and four-wing saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*). Some additional plant species were observed; however, identification was limited due to the absence of living specimens at the time of the survey. Generally, the community was very sparse and contained little species diversity.

Wildlife

Wildlife activity during the survey was low. Wildlife species observed include common grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) and house finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*). Species expected to occur are those commonly found in disturbed, desert sink habitats, such as killdeer (*Charadris vociferus*), zebra-tailed lizard (*Callisaurus draconoides*), and antelope ground squirrel (*Ammospermophilus leucurus*), and migratory bird species using the Salton Sea, such as snowy egret (*Egretta thula*) and marbled godwit (*Limosa fedoa*).

Sensitive Biological Resources

Sensitive Species

Federally and State Listed Species

No habitat for any State- or federally-listed threatened or endangered species occurs within the study area. Therefore, the development of the study area is not anticipated to impact any plant or animal species protected under CESA or FESA.

CVMSHCP

The study area contains suitable habitat for Palm Springs round-tailed ground squirrel (*Spermophilus tereticaudus chlorus*), and burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), both CSC covered under the CVMSHCP. Neither species were observed within the study area. Impacts to these species' habitat have been adequately accounted for by the CVMSHCP and if the development of the study area is found consistent with the CVMSHCP, then further consideration of potential impacts will not be necessary.

Other Sensitive Species

No suitable habitat for sensitive species not specifically protected under any other policy occurs on the study area.

Critical Habitat

The study area is not located within any USFWS-designated Critical Habitat.

Nesting Birds

No nests or nesting activities were observed during the survey; however, the study area contains suitable nesting habitat for ground nesting avian species, such as killdeer.

California Desert Native Plant Act

No plant species protected under the CDNPA were observed within the study area and no impacts associated with the development of the study area are anticipated to occur.

Jurisdictional Waters

The erosional gullies that occur on the northern and southern portions of the study area both contain bed and bank features and flow into the Salton Sea, which is a traditional navigable water. Therefore, these large gully features are jurisdictional must be avoided.

Wildlife Corridors and Movement

The Salton Sea is an established resting point for many different populations of migratory birds. Guy wires, power lines, and similar, low-visibility, infrastructure components have been recorded to cause high mortality of migrating bird populations as a result of avian/wire collisions. The installation of guy wires, such as proposed with this tower location, has potential to significantly impact multiple species of migratory birds utilizing the Salton Sea.

Applicable HCP Land Use Management Plan

The study area is privately owned and managed and is subject to the CVMSHCP. The study area is not located within a Conservation Area, as designated by the CVMSHCP.



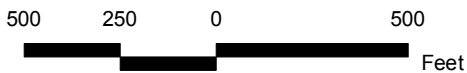
Legend

- Tower Location
- 300' Study Area

Source: Riverside County NAIP, 2005.

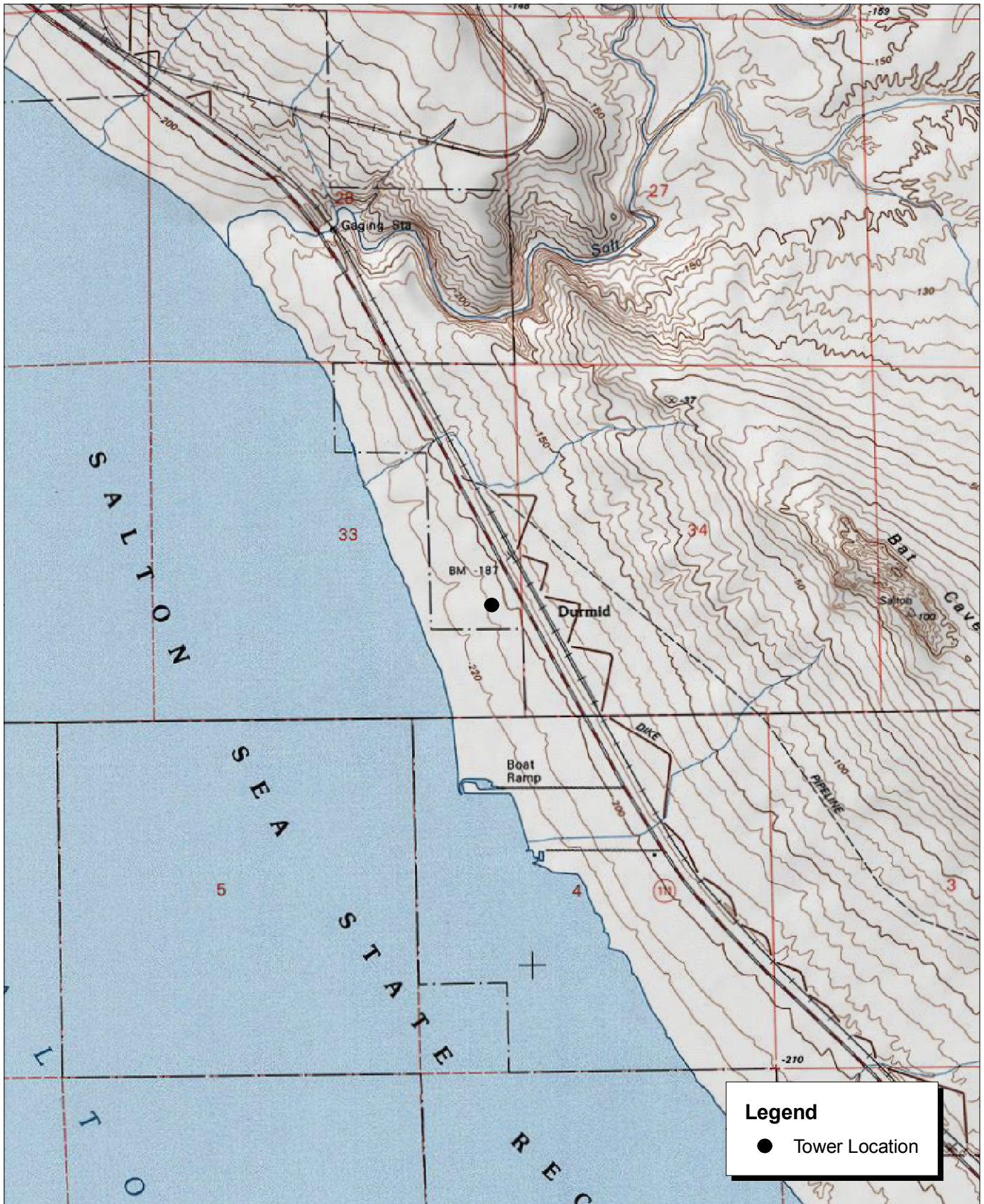


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Line Communication Site Local Vicinity Aerial Map

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
 PUBLIC SAFETY ENTERPRISE COMMUNICATION PROJECT



Source: USGS Durmid 7.5' Topographic Map.

2,000 1,000 0 2,000 Feet

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Line Communication Site Local Vicinity Topographic Map

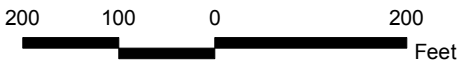


Source: USDA Soils Data (NRCS).



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Line Communication Site USDA Soils Map

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
PUBLIC SAFETY ENTERPRISE COMMUNICATION PROJECT



Photograph 1: View toward Line candidate location, facing northeast.



Photograph 2: Overview of Line candidate location, facing northwest.



Photograph 3: View toward Line candidate location, facing southeast.



Photograph 4: View toward Line candidate location, facing southwest.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.



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Line Candidate Photographs 1 to 4
PSEC Project



Photograph 5: View from Line candidate location, facing east.



Photograph 6: View from Line candidate location, facing north.



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



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

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.



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Line Candidate Photographs 5 to 8
PSEC Project

Preliminary Conservation Report



Enter your APN (Assesor's Parcel Number) below.
Do not use "-" or other non-numeric characters.

Example 123456789 **NOT** 123-456-789

Your parcel does not appear to be in a conservation area.
If no records are returned and you typed the number correctly your parcel is *not* in a conservation area.

This is a **PRELIMINARY** report and is for informational purposes only.
Property owners with parcels **INSIDE CONSERVATION** areas should contact CVAG for detailed information.

For more information, you can visit the [CVAG](#) and [CVMSHCP](#) websites.



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