
Menifee

The Menifee study area is located between Menifee Valley and Paloma Valley, approximately 2.5 miles north of the City of Murrieta.

Existing Conditions

General Site Conditions

The study area is located on a graded dirt lot adjacent to a fire station. The lot is slightly lower in elevation than the surrounding areas and most likely acts as a sink area during rain storms. The elevation of the study area is approximately 1,651 feet above sea level. The soils present consist of Honcut sandy loam, based on the USDA soil survey. Land use in the vicinity consist of a large, artificial drainage basin following a paved road to the south, bare agricultural land following a paved road to the west, a fire station to the east, and a rural residential development to the north. The study area is subject to disturbance associated with grading and vehicle parking.

Vegetation

The study area consists of bare ground with sparse scatterings of ruderal species, such as telegraph weed (*Heterotheca grandiflora*), short-podded mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), and puncture weed (*Tribulus terrestris*). A row of recently planted, date palm (*Washingtonia* sp.) saplings occurs east of the site along the dirt slope at the fire station property line. A small, isolated stand of wetland vegetation occurs approximately 50 feet northeast of the study area. The wetland vegetation is less than 0.01 acre and is a direct result of regular runoff associated with adjacent fire station activities. The plant species present include arroyo willow (*Salix lasiolepis*) and cattail (*Typha* sp.).

Wildlife

Wildlife activity was low during the survey. Wildlife species observed include mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), and California towhee (*Pipilo crissalis*). Species expected to occur are those common in heavily disturbed urban areas, such as rock dove (*Columba livia*), and western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*).

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.

WRMSHCP

No sensitive species were identified by the WRMSHCP as potentially occurring within the study area.

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 and as a result of regular vehicle use and a lack of any rodent burrows, no suitable nesting habitat occurs on the study area.

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

A small patch of wetland vegetation occurs on the easternmost extent of the study area; however, it is a direct result of nuisance flow from the adjacent fire station. This area will not be impacted by the development of the study area.

Wildlife Corridors and Movement

Given the limited size and minimal disturbance associated with the development of the study area, no impacts to any wildlife corridors or wildlife movement patterns are anticipated.

Applicable HCP Land Use Management Plan

WRMSHCP

The study area is owned and managed by Riverside County and is subject to the WRMSHCP. The study area is located within the “Sun City/Menifee Valley” Area Plan, and does not fall within a Criteria Cell.

SKRHCP

The study area is located within a fee area under the Western Riverside County SKRHCP.



Road

Murrieta Road

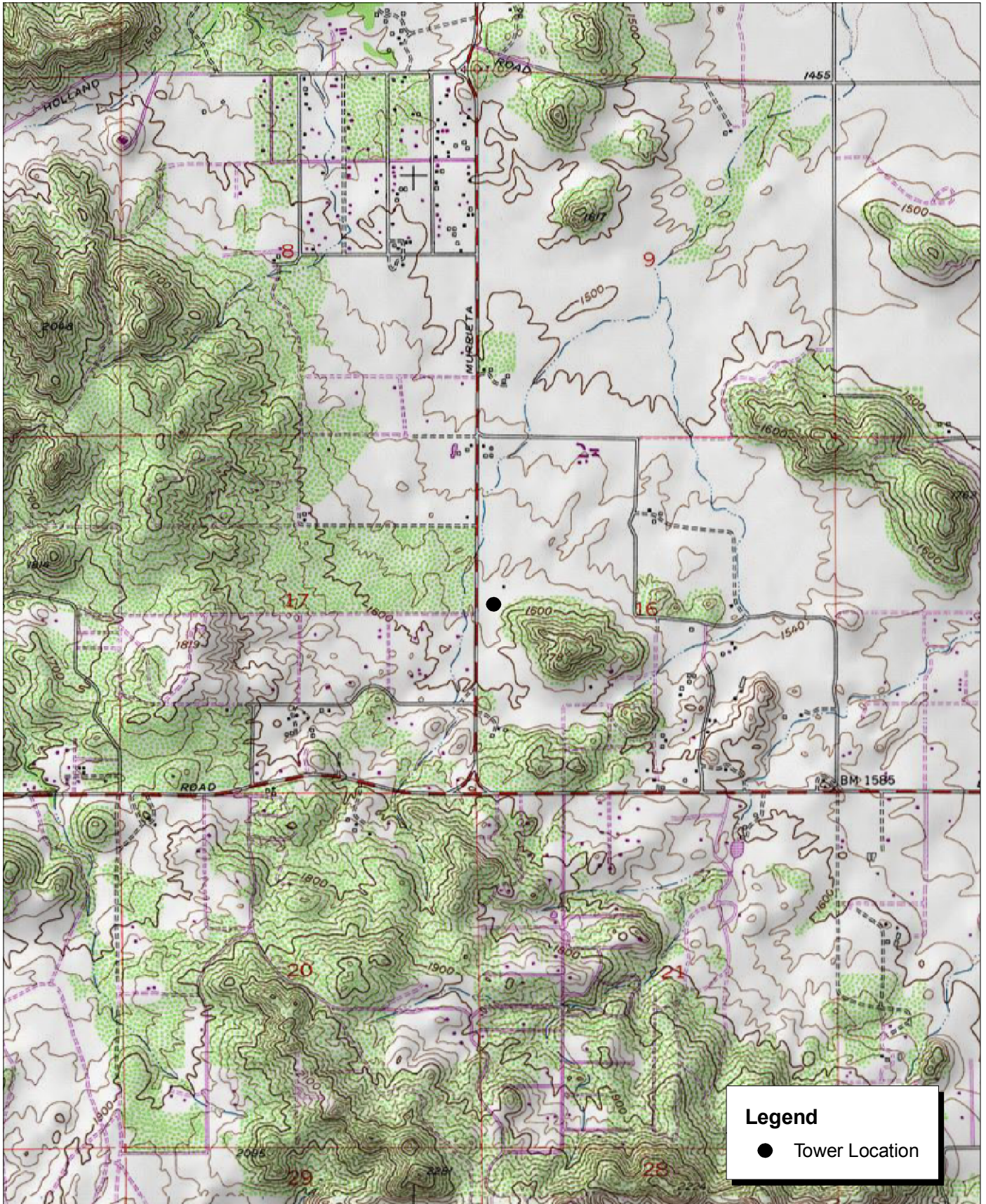
Legend

- Tower Locations
- ⊠ 50' Study Area

Source: Riverside County NAIP, 2005.



Menifee Communication Site Local Vicinity Aerial Map



Source: USGS Romoland 7.5' Topographic Map.



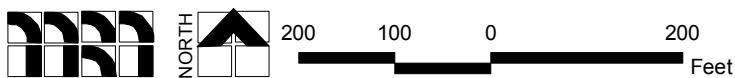
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Menifee Communication Site Local Vicinity Topographic Map

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Source: USDA Soils Data (NRCS).



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Menifee Communication Site USDA Soils Map

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



Photograph 2: View toward Menifee candidate location, facing southwest.



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



Photograph 4: View toward Menifee candidate location, facing northwest.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.



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Menifee Candidate Photographs 1 to 4
PSEC Project



Photograph 5: View from Menifee candidate location, facing south.



Photograph 6: View from Menifee candidate location, facing southeast.



Photograph 7: View from Menifee candidate location, facing north.



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

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.



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Menifee Candidate Photographs 5 to 8
PSEC Project

Menifee**Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP)**

APN	Cell	Cell Group	Acres	Area Plan	Sub Unit
360290016	Not A Part	Independent	1.81	Sun City / Menifee Valley	Not a Part

Background

The final MSHCP was approved by the County Board of Supervisors on June 17, 2003. The federal and state permits were issued on June 22, 2004 and implementation of the MSHCP began on June 23, 2004.

For more information concerning the MSHCP, contact your local city or the County of Riverside for the unincorporated areas. Additionally, the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA), which oversees all the cities and County implementation of the MSHCP, can be reached at:

Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor
Riverside, CA 92502-1604

Phone: 951-955-9700
Fax: 951-955-8873

www.wrc-rca.org