
Rancho Carrillo

The Rancho Carrillo study area is located in the Riverside County portion of the CNF, approximately 9 miles southwest of Lake Elsinore.

Existing Conditions

General Site Conditions

The study area is located on an undeveloped hilltop, approximately 150 feet from an existing water tank facility. The elevation of the study area is approximately 2,500 feet above sea level. The soils present consist of Blasingame stony loam, based on the USDA soil survey. Land use in the vicinity consists of the water tank facility to the southwest; a dirt access road bordered by federally designated Wilderness to the east, and open space followed by rural residential development to the northwest. The site is subject to minimal disturbance associated with maintenance of the water tank facility.

Vegetation

The vegetation on the study area consists of a dense, mixed chaparral plant community. Plant species observed include chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*), black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), hoary-leaf ceanothus (*Ceanothus crassifolia*), scrub oak (*Quercus berberidifolia*), laural sumac (*Malosma laurina*), deerweed (*Lotus scoparius*), sticky monkeyflower (*Mimulus aurantiacus*), chaparral nightshade (*Solanum xanti*), poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*), and saw-toothed goldenbush (*Hazardia squarrosa*). Young coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) trees were also observed in the study area.

Wildlife

Wildlife activity was high during the survey. Wildlife species observed include mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), western scrub jay (*Aphelocoma californica californica*), wrentit (*Chamaea fasciata*), and mountain chickadee (*Poecile gambeli*).

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.

USFS Sensitive and Watch List Species

The study area has suitable habitat for San Diego (coast) horned lizard (*Phrynosoma coronatum blainvillii*), San Miguel savory (*Satureja chandleri*), Parry's tetracoccus (*Tetracoccus dioicus*), chaparral nolina (*Nolina cismontane*), all USFS Region 5 Sensitive List species; and northern red diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber ruber*), a USFS Region 5 Watch List species. None of the

species were observed within the study area. Regardless, species identified as sensitive by the USFS are not directly protected by any State or federal laws or policies.

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 vegetation on the study area contains suitable nesting habitat for shrub nesting avian species, such as California towhee.

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

No drainage features, wetlands, vernal pools, or suitable habitat for sensitive fairy shrimp species occur on or in the vicinity of the study area. No waters or wetlands potentially under the jurisdiction of the State or the United States will 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 or Land Use Management Plan

The study area is located on federal land managed by the USFS. The study area is subject to jurisdiction under the Cleveland National Forest Management Plan (CNFMP). Approval by the USFS must be obtained prior to construction.

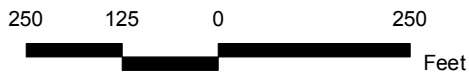


Source: Riverside County NAIP, 2005.



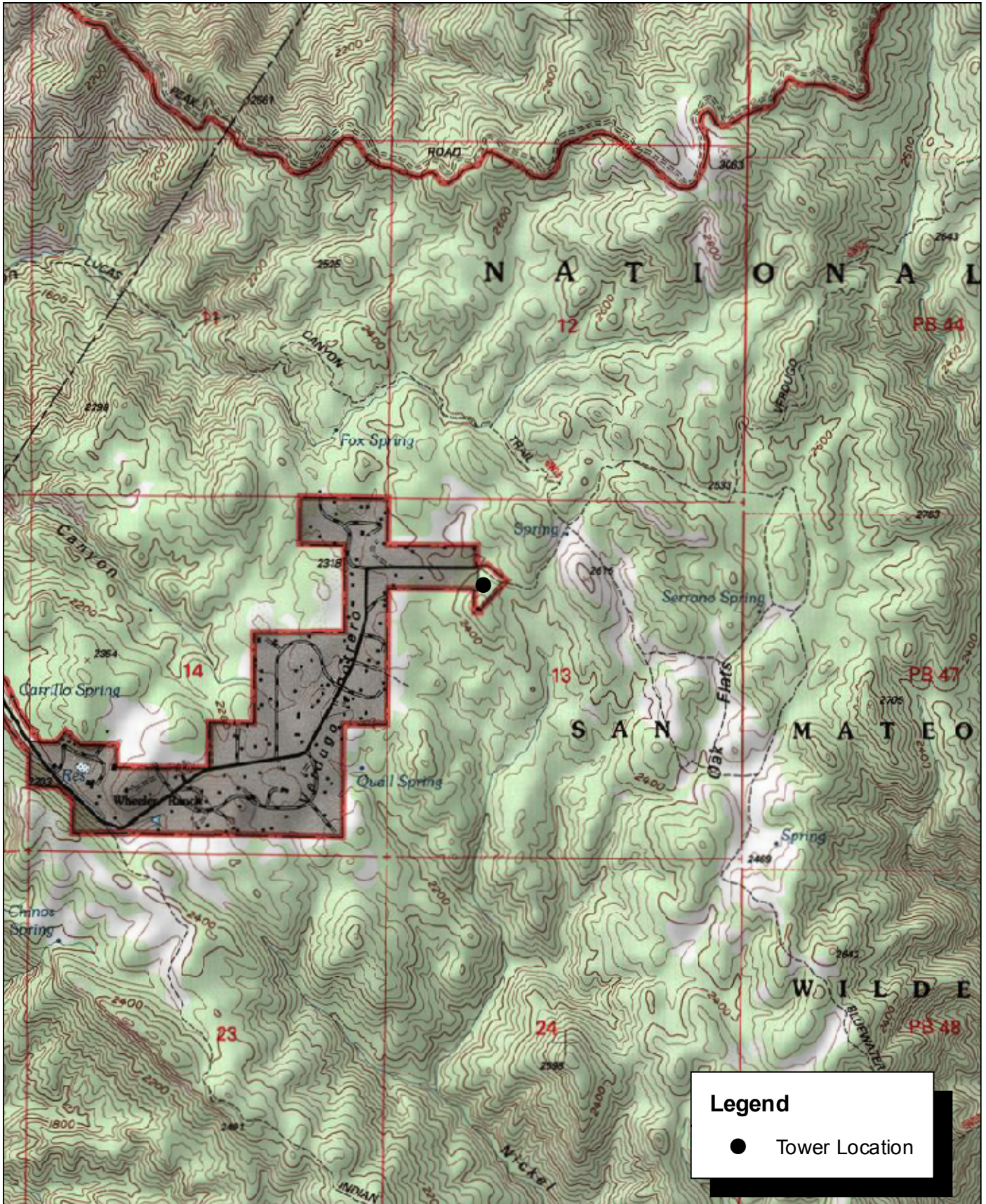
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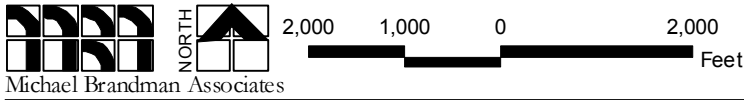


Rancho Carillo Communication Site Local Vicinity Aerial Map

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Source: USGS Sitton Peak 7.5' Topographic Map.



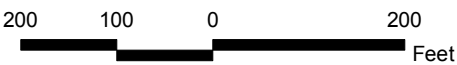


Source: USDA Soils Data (NRCS).



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Rancho Carillo Communication Site USDA Soils Map

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Photograph 1: View toward Rancho Carrillo candidate location, facing east.



Photograph 2: View toward Rancho Carrillo candidate access, facing northeast.



Photograph 3: View toward Rancho Carrillo candidate location, facing west.



Photograph 4: View toward Rancho Carrillo candidate location, facing northeast.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.



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Rancho Carrillo Candidate Photographs 1 to 4 PSEC Project



Photograph 5: View from Rancho Carrillo candidate location, facing north.



Photograph 6: View from Rancho Carrillo candidate location, facing south.



Photograph 7: View from Rancho Carrillo candidate location, facing northeast.



Photograph 8: View from Rancho Carrillo candidate location, facing southeast.

Source: Michael Brandman Associates, 2008.



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Rancho Carrillo Candidate Photographs 5 to 8
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