



**United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management
Scenic Quality Field Inventory**

Date 8/23/05		
District California Desert		
Field Office Palm Springs		
Scenic Quality Rating Unit 12		
Viewpoint 18 : Chuckwalla Valley Rd.		
Evaluator(s) Michael Clayton		

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER			
	LANDFORM / WATER	VEGETATION	STRUCTURES
Form	Flat valley floor.	Irregular distribution of low growing grasses and shrubs. Coverage appearing more consistent at distance.	Linear and complex for transmission line towers and h-frame structures. Linear for I-10 (in distance).
Line	Horizontal for the valley floor.	Irregular for individual shrubs. Horizontal as defined by the valley floor. Diagonal as demarcated by access road.	Vertical, horizontal, and diagonal for lattice and h-frame structures, horizontal for I-10.
Color	Light-tan soils.	Tan to pale-yellow grasses with tanish-gray to green shrubs.	Gray to brown.
Texture	Soils in the immediate foreground appear granular.	Medium grain to matte.	Smooth

Narrative: SQRU 12 encompasses the central-eastern portion of Chuckwalla Valley in the vicinity of the exiting transmission lines on both the north and south side of I-10. The landform of the valley floor is flat and non-descript with grass and low-growing shrubs of subdued color. Though distant mountain ranges (McCoy Mountains to the north and Chuckwalla Mountains to the south) provide limited backdrops of visual interest (not part of this unit), SQRU 12 is primarily influenced by the dominant presence of existing utility infrastructure and Interstate 10.

Score					SCENIC QUALITY CLASSIFICATION
	High	Medium	Low	Explanation or Rationale	
a. Landform			1	Chuckwalla Valley Floor	
b. Vegetation			1		
c. Water			0		
d. Color		2			
e. Adjacent Scenery		2		Distant McCoy and Chuckwalla Mountains	
f. Scarcity			1		
g. Cultural Modifications			-4	Transmission Lines and I-10	
TOTALS	0	4	-1	3	<input type="checkbox"/> A 19 or more <input type="checkbox"/> B 12 - 18 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C 11 or less