



Existing Scenic Integrity: High, with Areas of Low. KOP-Center-1 is located on the Angeles Forest Highway near the intersection of Mount Emma Road. This view is looking south along the Angeles Forest Highway and it is common to the area south of the Vincent Substation leading into the ANF. Landforms are typically rolling hills covered with sparse, low-growing vegetation of sagebrush and chemise, giving the landscape a mosaic appearance. The low-growing vegetation does not provide screening, but landforms provide some visual screening. Transmission towers are visible on the skyline, disrupting the horizon. Wooden utility poles follow the highway and create additional visual contrasts. Other than these utility structures, the landscape has high scenic integrity.

Although the immediate foreground is dominated by the highway itself, NFS lands visible from the Angeles Forest Highway are predominantly natural-appearing, consisting of middleground and background views to brush-covered hillsides and rounded landforms. The landscape exhibits a high degree of intactness and coherence of form and character with a moderate amount of visual variety. However, this harmony of form and character is interrupted on the skyline by the geometric forms of three separate existing 220-kV transmission line towers. Several existing lattice steel towers are situated between the skyline and the viewer; however, they tend to blend with the landform backdrop and are barely visible in this photograph. Still, these back-dropped structures are visually evident from on-the-ground. Overall, the existing scenic integrity of this NFS landscape is high, with no deviations of form, line, color, texture, or scale; however, the existing skylined transmission towers, with their inherent industrial character, attract attention and begin to dominate the valued landscape character being viewed, and they reduce these certain areas of the existing landscape to levels of low scenic integrity.

Scenic Integrity Objective: High. In the 2005 Forest Plan, the entire landscape in this vicinity is mapped as High SIO, where the management direction states that human activities should not be visually evident. Human-caused deviations may be present but must repeat the form, line, color, texture, and pattern common to the natural landscape character so completely and at such a scale that they are not evident.

Figure 3.14-16a (Revised)
Existing Conditions
for KOP-Center-1
Southbound Angeles Forest
Highway (Alternative 2,
Segment 6)

Source: Lee Anderson, 2008.