

## **Appendix F3.15**

### **Visual Resources**

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Photographic Simulations

Contrast Rating Forms

## Summary of the Southern Nevada and Ely District Visual Resource Inventories

Visual Resource Inventories for the Southern Nevada and Ely District provide a baseline scenic quality evaluation, a delineation of distance zones, and a sensitivity level analysis. Based on these three factors, BLM-administered lands are placed into one of four VRI classes that represent the relative value of the visual resources. Classes I and II are the most valued, Class III represents a moderate value, and Class IV is of least value. Inventory classes are informational in nature and provide the basis for considering visual values in the development of VRM classes.

### Scenic Quality

The VRIs for the Southern Nevada and Ely Districts map and rate scenic quality of BLM lands as Scenic Quality Rating Units (SQRUs). The majority of the SQRUs within each affected basin, as shown in **Table F3.15-1**, are within the Ely District. Rating areas are delineated on a basis of like physiographic characteristics; similar visual patterns, texture, color, variety, etc.; and areas which have similar impacts from man-made modifications. Public lands are given an A, B, or C rating based on the apparent scenic quality which is determined using seven key factors: landform, vegetation, water, color, adjacent scenery, scarcity, and cultural modifications. Class A landscapes have a score of 18.5 or more and have the highest scenic value. Class B landscapes have a score between 11.5 to 18 and Class C landscapes have scores of 11 or less.

In the VRI, cultural modifications that affect landform, water, or vegetation may add or detract from the scenic quality of a unit. Negative cultural modification ratings are applied to SQRUs that contain modifications that are discordant and promote strong disharmony in the landscape, on a scale of 2 to -4. **Table F3.15-1** provides the rating for cultural modifications in each SQRU. Very few SQRUs contain cultural modifications that detracted from other scenic factors.

Adjacent scenery is identified in the VRI, and included in impact evaluation as the scenic quality of adjacent SQRUs may be impacted by visible proposed facilities. The adjacent scenery rating identifies the degree at which scenery outside an SQRU enhances the overall impression of the scenery within the SQRU, on a scale of 0 to 5. The higher the number the greater the influence of adjacent scenery has on visual quality within a SQRU. **Table F3.15-1** provides the rating for the influence of adjacent scenery in each SQRU. The majority of the SQRUs were greatly enhanced by adjacent scenery.

The VRI vegetation factor rating identifies the degree of variety from patterns, forms, and textures of vegetation. The ratings range from 1, indicating little or no variety or contrast in vegetation, to 5, indicating a variety of vegetative types as expressed in interesting forms, textures, and patterns. **Table F3.15-1** provides the rating for the existing variety in vegetation cover within each SQRU.

### Sensitivity Levels

The VRIs for the Southern Nevada and Ely Districts map and rate sensitivity levels for BLM land as SLRU, as shown on **Table F3.15-1**, and provide a measure of public concern for scenic quality. Public lands are assigned high, medium, or low sensitivity levels by analyzing the various factors that include: 1) type of users, 2) amount of use, 3) public interest, 4) adjacent land uses, 5) management objectives of special areas, and 6) other indicators of sensitivity that may be specific to the region under analysis. Areas inventoried with high sensitivity level occur in the vicinity of communities, on highways and other roads that cross through landscapes inventoried with a high scenic quality, and in the vicinity of special management areas, including the areas described above. Otherwise, roads are generally rated with a moderate level of sensitivity. Areas inventoried with a low sensitivity level occur in landscapes with a low to moderate scenic quality in distance zones greater than 5 miles from sensitive viewpoints.

**Table F3.15-1 Proposed Action, Alternatives A through C Rights-of-way, Pipeline and Power Line Crossings of Scenic Quality Rating Units**

Basin	SQRU Identifier	ROW (acres)	Groundwater Development (acres)	SLRU (high, mod, low)	Total SQRU Score	Cultural Modification	Adjacent scenery	Vegetation	Comments
Cave Valley	38	-	2,204	moderate, high	16.5	0	4	3.5	Facilities in moderate SLRU
	64	-	160	moderate, high	12	0	4	3	Facilities in moderate and high SLRU
	65	20	28,849	low, high	16	0.5	4	2	Facilities in low and high SLRU
	66	-	399	moderate, high	18	0	4.5	3	Facilities in moderate SLRU
	68	1	3,175	moderate, high	13	0.5	3	3	Facilities in moderate SLRU
Coyote Springs Valley	111	7	-	moderate, high	9.5	0	3	1.5	Facilities in low and moderate SLRU
	133	60	-	moderate, high	11	-1	3	1.5	Facilities in moderate SLRU
	39	688	-	low, moderate, high	11.5	0	3	3	LVFO. Facilities in moderate SLRU
Delamar Valley	116	-	1,151	moderate, high	16	0	4	2.5	Facilities in moderate SLRU
	117	65	37,252	low, moderate, high	12.5	-0.5	4	2.5	Facilities in low, moderate, and high SLRU
	118	9	31,284	low, moderate, high	14.5	-0.5	3.5	4	Facilities in low, moderate, and high SLRU
	119	-	1,800	moderate, high	17	0	3	3.5	Facilities in moderate SLRU
Dry Lake Valley	38	1	715	moderate, high	16.5	0	4	3.5	Facilities in moderate SLRU
	69	26	14,867	low, moderate, high	13	0	3.5	3.5	Facilities in high SLRU
	70	15	39,124	moderate, high	10	0	2	3	Facilities in high SLRU
	72	-	415	moderate, high	17	0	4	3	Facilities in moderate SLRU
	90	-	2,073	high	15	0	4	3	Facilities in high SLRU
	91	-	290	moderate, high	19	0	4	2.5	Facilities in high SLRU, Class A scenic quality
	92	29	102,673	high	12.5	0	4	2.5	Facilities in high SLRU
	93	-	2,418	moderate, high	16.5	0	4	2.5	Facilities in high SLRU
	117	3	-	moderate, high	12.5	-0.5	4	2.5	Facilities in high SLRU
	118	35	6,159	low, moderate, high	14.5	-0.5	3.5	4	Facilities in high SLRU
	119	-	28	moderate, high	17	0	3	3.5	Facilities in moderate SLRU
	39	477	-	low, moderate, high	11.5	0	3	3	Facilities in moderate SLRU

**Table F3.15-1 Proposed Action, Alternatives A through C Rights-of-way, Pipeline and Power Line Crossings of Scenic Quality Rating Units (Continued)**

Basin	SQRU Identifier	ROW (acres)	Groundwater Development (acres)	SLRU (high, mod, low)	Total SQRU Score	Cultural Modification	Adjacent scenery	Vegetation	Comments
Garnet Valley	37	62	-	low, moderate, high	5.5	-1.5	2.5	1.5	Facilities in low SLRU
	39	242	-		11.5	0	3	3	Facilities in moderate SLRU
Hamlin Valley	29	2	-	low, high	14.5	0	4	3	Facilities in low SLRU
Hidden Valley North	38	1	-	low, moderate, high	10.5	0	3	1.5	Facilities in moderate SLRU
Lake Valley	32	0	-	low, moderate, high	14	0	4	3.5	Facilities in low, mod, and high SLRU
	33	-	-	moderate, high	12.5	0	3	3	Facilities in moderate SLRU
	38	-	-	moderate, high	16.5	0	4	3.5	Facilities in moderate SLRU
	70	0	-	moderate, high	10	0	2	3	Facilities in high SLRU
	73	26	-	moderate, high	11	0	4	3	Facilities in moderate and high SLRU
	74	23	-	low, moderate, high	17.5	0	4	3	Facilities in low, mod, and high SLRU
Las Vegas Valley	78	8	-	low, moderate, high	10	0	2.5	3	Facilities in low SLRU
	17	49	-	low, moderate, high	8	-1	3.5	1	Facilities in low SLRU
	35	77	-	low, moderate, high	8.5	-0	2.5	1.5	Facilities in high SLRU
	37	4	-	low, moderate, high	5.5	-1.5	2.5	1.5	Facilities in moderate SLRU
Lower Meadow Valley	121	121	-	moderate, high	21.5	-1	0	5	Construction support area in high SLRU, Scenic Class A
Pahranagat Valley	111	4	-	low, moderate, high	9.5	-0.5	3	1.5	Facilities in low and moderate SLRU
	116	-	-	moderate, high	16	0	4	2.5	Facilities in moderate SLRU
	117	-	-	low, moderate, high	12.5	-0.5	4	2.5	Facilities in low, moderate, and high SLRU
Snake Valley	28	-	8,287	moderate, high	12	0	4	3	Facilities in high SLRU
	29	52	75,588	low, high	14.5	0	4	3	Facilities in low SLRU
	30	-	8,263	moderate, high	24.5	1.5	4	4	Facilities in moderate and high SLRU, Scenic Class A

**Table F3.15-1 Proposed Action, Alternatives A through C Rights-of-way, Pipeline and Power Line Crossings of Scenic Quality Rating Units (Continued)**

Basin	SQRU Identifier	ROW (acres)	Groundwater Development (acres)	SLRU (high, mod, low)	Total SQRU Score	Cultural Modification	Adjacent scenery	Vegetation	Comments
Spring Valley	27	-	5,746	moderate, high	19	0.5	3.5	4	Facilities in high SLRU, Scenic Class A
	30	-	1,378	moderate, high	24.5	1.5	4	4	Facilities in moderate SLRU, Scenic Class A
	31	-	2,897	moderate, high	13.5	0	3	3	Facilities in moderate SLRU
	32	188	333,475	low, mod, high	14	0	4	3.5	Facilities in moderate and high SLRU
	33	3	14,793	moderate, high	12.5	0	3	3	Facilities in high SLRU
	34	3	-	moderate, high	16	0.5	4	3	Facilities in low, mod and high SLRU
	38	-	637	moderate, high	16.5	0	4	3.5	
	79	-	446	moderate, high	20.5	0.5	4	4.54	Facilities in moderate SLRU, Scenic Class A
Steptoe Valley	34	3	-	moderate, high	16	0.5	4	3	Facilities in high SLRU
	36	7	-	moderate, high	11	0	3	3	Facilities in high SLRU
	37	9	-	moderate, high	12	0	3	3	Facilities in high SLRU

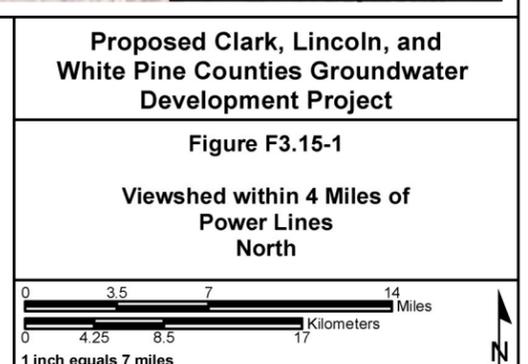
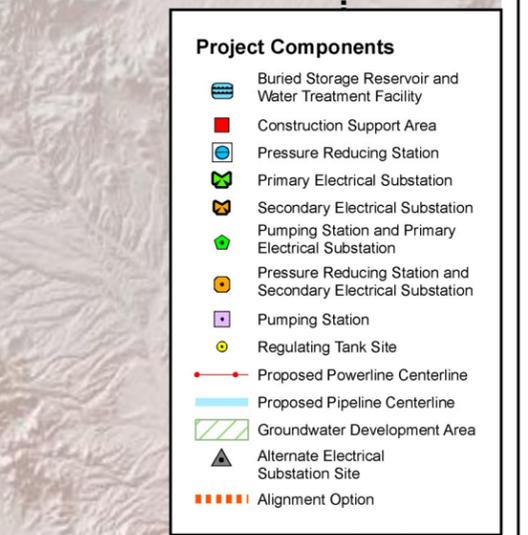
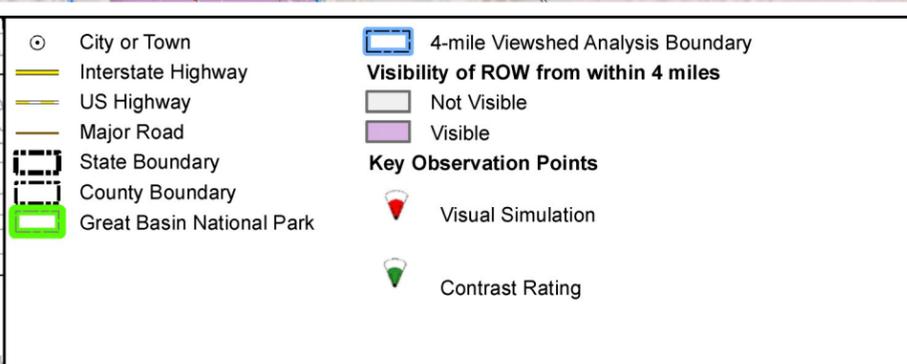
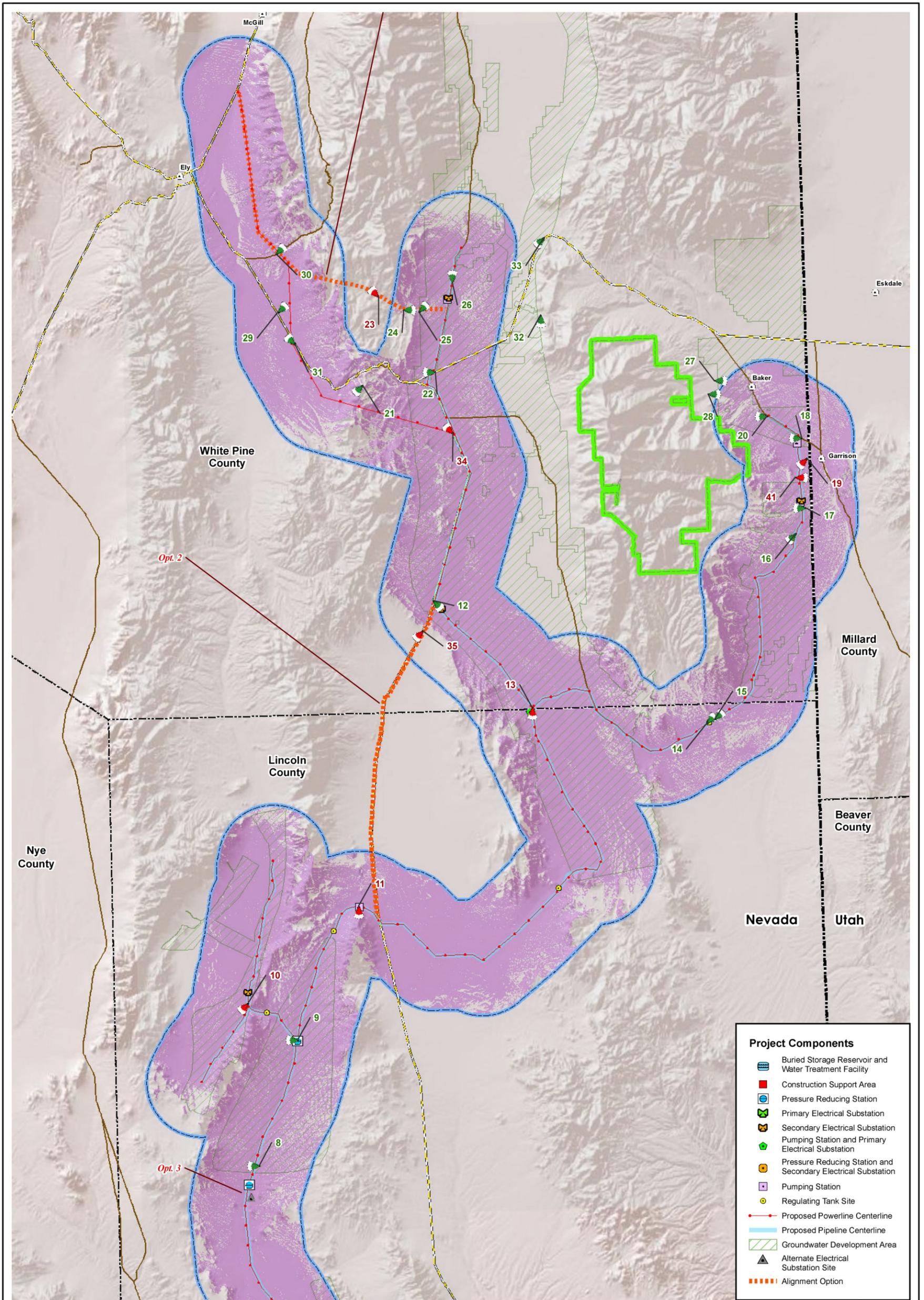
SLRU = Sensitivity Level Rating Unit.

Source: BLM Southern Nevada District 2011a; BLM Ely District 2011b.

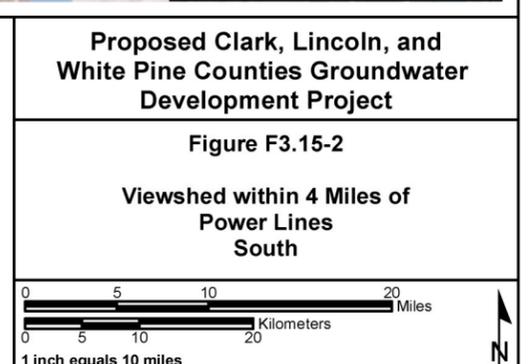
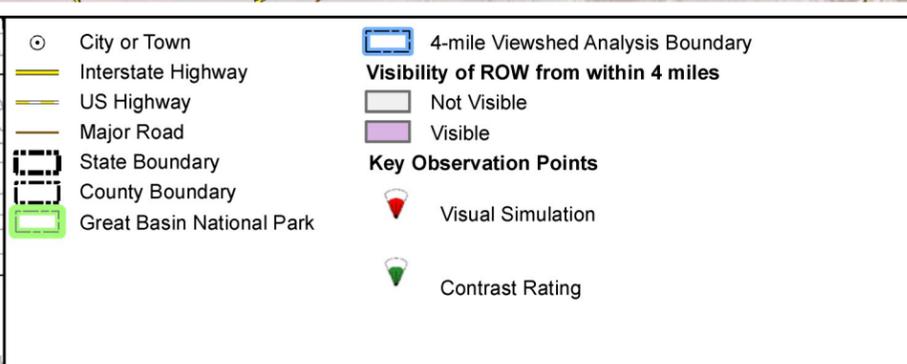
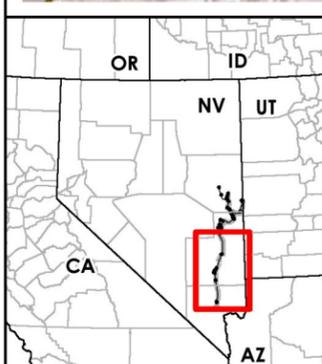
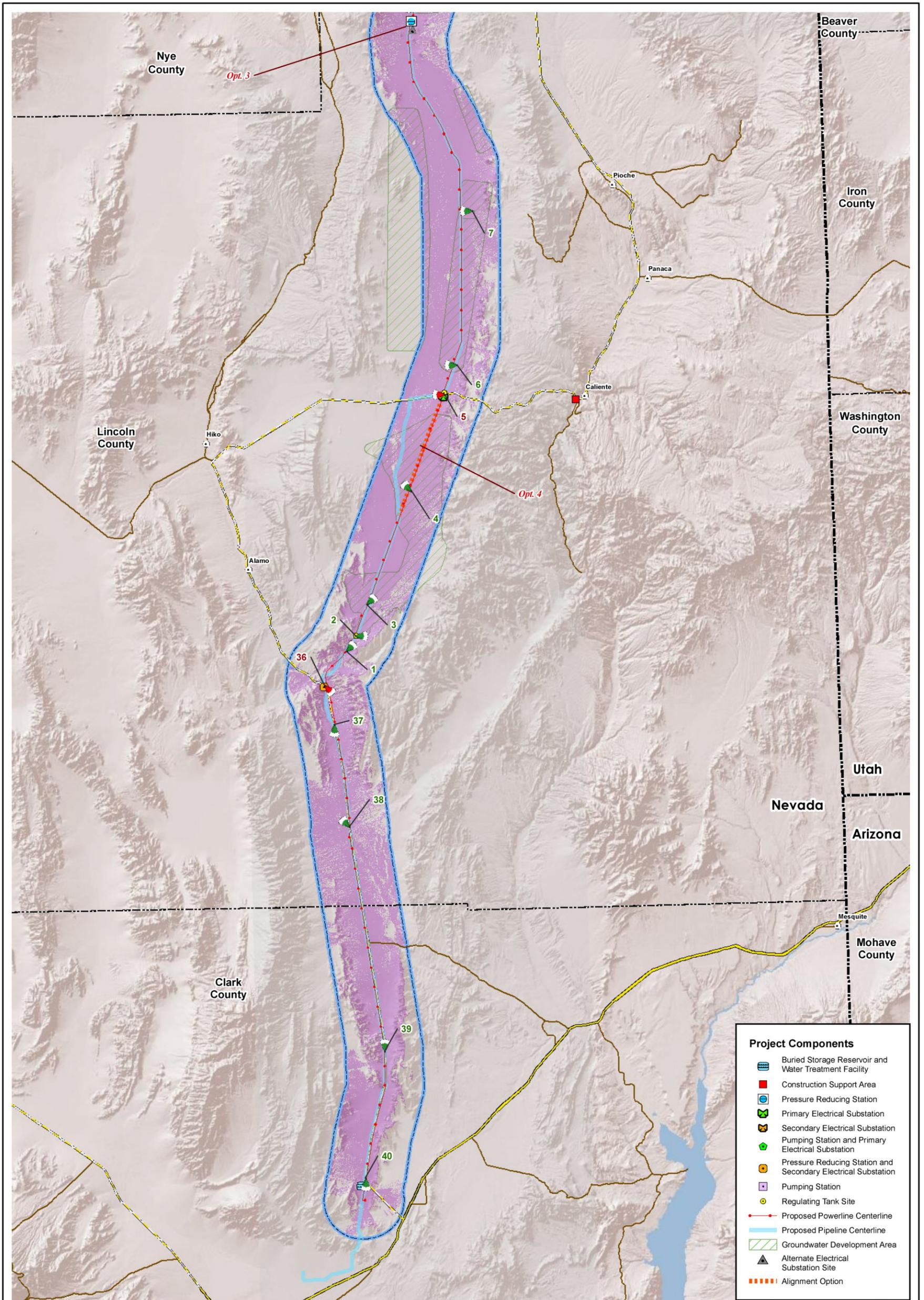
**Table F3.15-2 Compliance with Visual Resource Objectives by KOP for Proposed Action ROW Facilities**

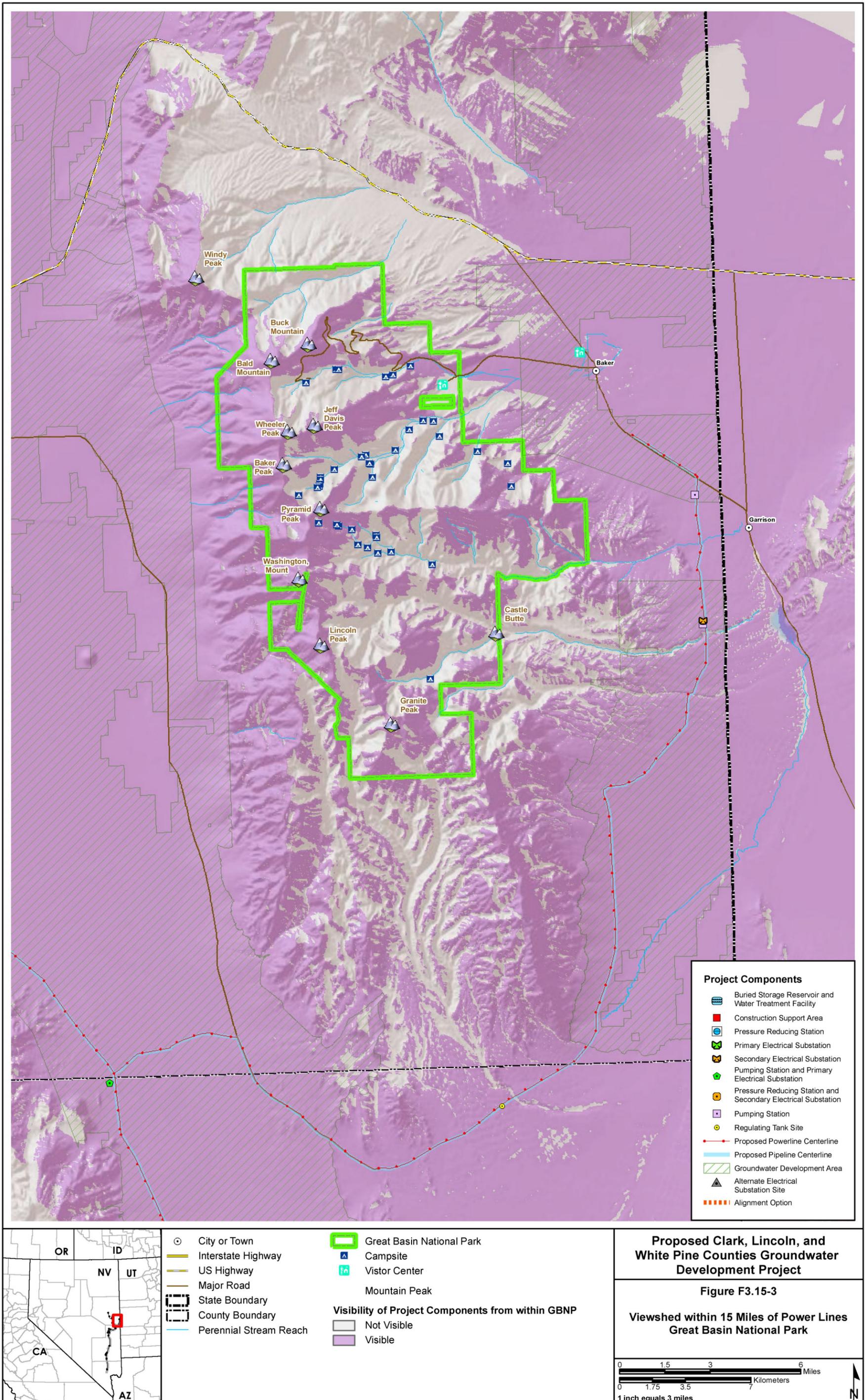
<b>KOP</b>	<b>Photo-simulation</b>	<b>Visual Resource Objective</b>	<b>Visual Contrast Rating with BLM BMPs, ACMs, and Mitigation</b>	<b>Management Objectives Achieved with BLM BMPs, ACMs, and Mitigation</b>
1	No	IV	Weak	Yes
2	No	IV	Weak	Yes
3	No	IV	Moderate	Yes
4	No	IV	Moderate	Yes
5	Yes	IV	Strong	Yes
6	No	IV	Weak	Yes
7	No	IV	Weak	Yes
8	No	IV	Weak	Yes
9	No	IV	Strong	Yes
10	Yes	IV	Moderate	Yes
11	Yes	IV	Moderate	Yes
12	No	IV	Moderate	Yes
13	Yes	IV	Strong	Yes
14	No	IV	Moderate	Yes
15	Yes	IV	Moderate	Yes
16	No	IV	Moderate	Yes
17	No	III	Moderate	Yes
18	No	III	Moderate	Yes
19	Yes	III	Moderate	Yes
20	No	III	Moderate	Yes
21	No	II	Weak	Yes
22	No	IV	Moderate	Yes
23 <sup>1</sup>	Yes	Max Modification <sup>2</sup>	Weak	Yes
24 <sup>1</sup>	No	Modification/Partial Retention <sup>2</sup>	Weak	Yes
25 <sup>1</sup>	No	IV / Partial Retention <sup>2</sup>	Weak	Yes
26	No	III	Weak	Yes
27	No	III	Weak	Yes
28	No	III	Weak	Yes
29	No	III	Moderate	Yes
30	No	IV	Weak	Yes
31	No	III	Moderate	Yes
32	No	II, III, IV <sup>4</sup>	Moderate	Yes
33	No	III	Weak	Yes
34	Yes	III, IV <sup>4</sup>	Moderate	Yes
35 <sup>3</sup>	Yes	III	Moderate	Yes
36	Yes	IV	Moderate	Yes
37	No	III	Moderate	Yes
38	No	III	Moderate	Yes
39	No	III	Weak	Yes
40	No	III	Weak	Yes
41	Yes	III	Moderate	Yes

<sup>1</sup> Option 1 (Humboldt – Toiyabe Power Line Alignment)<sup>2</sup> USFS Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Visual Quality Objectives<sup>3</sup> Option 2 only (North Lake Valley Pipeline Alignment)<sup>4</sup> Groundwater development area within more than one VRM class



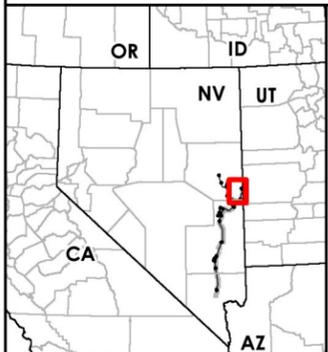
No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.





**Project Components**

- Buried Storage Reservoir and Water Treatment Facility
- Construction Support Area
- Pressure Reducing Station
- Primary Electrical Substation
- Secondary Electrical Substation
- Pumping Station and Primary Electrical Substation
- Pressure Reducing Station and Secondary Electrical Substation
- Pumping Station
- Regulating Tank Site
- Proposed Powerline Centerline
- Proposed Pipeline Centerline
- Groundwater Development Area
- Alternate Electrical Substation Site
- Alignment Option



- City or Town
- Interstate Highway
- US Highway
- Major Road
- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- Perennial Stream Reach
- Great Basin National Park
- Campsite
- Visitor Center
- Mountain Peak

**Visibility of Project Components from within GBNP**

- Not Visible
- Visible

**Proposed Clark, Lincoln, and White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project**

**Figure F3.15-3**

**Viewshed within 15 Miles of Power Lines Great Basin National Park**

0 1.5 3 6 Miles  
0 1.75 3.5 7 Kilometers  
1 inch equals 3 miles

No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.  
Appendix F3.15, Visual Resources

**Photographic Simulations**

## Existing Conditions



Photo taken along US 93, approximately 17 miles west of Caliente, NV - looking Northwest

## Simulation (No Mitigation Measures Applied)



## Simulation Shows:

### **Proposed Action**

- 230 kV + 69 kV Transmission Line: Single steel poles, galvanized steel. As mitigation, powerlines would be surfaced with Shadow Grey paint in sage/creosote plant communities.
- Pipeline Diameter: 72" - 78"
- Pipeline ROW Width: 200' (permanent + temporary)
- New Improved Access Road
- Dry Lake Valley Regulating Tank Site

## Existing Conditions



Photo taken along US 93, approximately 17 miles west of Caliente, NV - looking Northwest

## Simulation (Mitigation Measures Applied)



## Simulation Shows:

### **Proposed Action**

- 230 kV + 69 kV Transmission Line: Single steel poles, Corten steel. As mitigation, powerlines would be surfaced with Shadow Grey paint in sage/creosote plant communities.
- Pipeline Diameter: 72" - 78"
- Pipeline ROW Width: 200' (permanent + temporary)
- New Improved Access Road
- Dry Lake Valley Regulating Tank Site moved to south side of road to be co-located with Dry Lake Valley Primary Electrical Substation Site

## Existing Conditions



Photo taken along South Cave Valley Road, looking North

## Simulation (Mitigation Measures Applied)



## Simulation Shows:

### **Proposed Action**

- 69 kV + 25 kV Transmission Line: Single steel poles surfaced with Corten. As mitigation, powerlines would be surfaced with Shadow Grey paint in sage/creosote plant communities.
- Pipeline Diameter: 16" - 30"
- Pipeline ROW Width: 75' (reduced from 200')
- Existing Improved Road
- Cave Valley Secondary Substation Site with buildings painted with colors from BLM color palette



Photo taken along OHV trail, approximately 4 miles west of US Hwy 93 - looking East

Simulation (Mitigation Measures Applied)



Simulation Shows:

**Proposed Action**

- 230 kV + 69 kV Transmission Line: Single steel poles, Corten steel. As mitigation, powerlines would be surfaced with self-weathering Corten in pinyon pine plant communities.
- Pipeline Diameter: 66" - 72"
- Pipeline ROW Width: 200' (permanent + temporary)
- Improved Access Road
- Lake Valley Pumping Station Site - includes pumping station building, surge facilities buildings, and generator building, all painted with colors from the BLM color palette

Existing Conditions



Photo taken along White Pine CR 47, approximately 10 miles southeast of US Hwy 93 - looking South

Simulation (Mitigation Measures Applied)



Simulation Shows:

**Proposed Action**

- 230 kV + 69 kV + 25 kV Transmission Line: Single steel poles, surfaced with Corten. As mitigation, powerlines would be surfaced with Shadow Grey paint in sage/creosote plant communities.
- Pipeline Diameter: 66" - 72"
- Pipeline ROW Width: 200' (permanent + temporary)
- New Access Road with natural-surfaced mitigation applied
- Spring Valley South Pumping Station and Primary Electrical Substation Site - all buildings painted with colors from the BLM color palette

## Existing Conditions



Photo taken at Big Spring Wash crossing, looking Northwest

## Simulation (Mitigation Measures Applied)



## Simulation Shows:

### **Proposed Action**

- 69 kV Transmission Line: Single steel poles, surfaced with Corten. As mitigation, powerlines would be surfaced with Shadow Grey paint in sage/creosote plant communities.
- Pipeline Diameter: 42" - 54"
- Pipeline ROW Width: 200' (permanent + temporary)
- New Improved Access Road

Existing Conditions



Simulation 1 (Proposed Action)

Photo taken along White Pine County Road 42, approximately 1 miles west of Garrison, Utah – looking west to Great Basin National Park (4.5 miles away).



Simulation 2 (Mitigation Measures Applied)



**Simulations Show:**

- Simulation 1 Proposed Action** 0.5 miles from camera
- 69 kV / 25 kV Transmission Line: Single steel poles, galvanized steel
- Pipeline Diameter: 42” – 52”
- Pipeline ROW Width: 200’ (permanent + temporary)
- New Improved Access Road

- Simulation 2 with Mitigation** 0.5 miles from camera
- 69 kV + 25 kV Transmission Line: Single steel poles, surfaced with Corten. As mitigation, powerlines would be surfaced with Shadow Grey paint in sage/creosote plant communities.
- Pipeline Diameter: 42” – 52”
- Pipeline ROW Width: 100’ (reduced from 200’ permanent + temporary ROW)

Simulation 1



Simulation 2



Simulation 3



Existing Conditions



Photo taken along National Forest Service Road 436, approximately 5 miles west of NV Hwy 893, looking West

**Simulation Shows:**

- Humboldt - Toiyabe Alternative**
- 230 kV Transmission Line
- Simulation 1 - Single Steel Pole, Galvanized Steel
- Simulation 2 - Single Steel Pole, Corten Steel
- Simulation 3 - Wood H-Frame

# KOP 34

Simulation 1



Existing Conditions

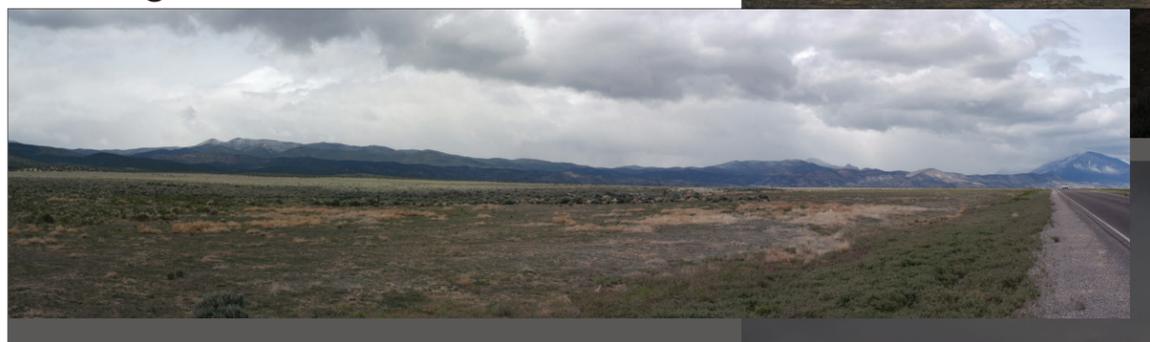


Photo taken along US Hwy 93, approximately 4.5 miles south of intersection of US Hwy 6/50, looking northwest

Simulation 2



Simulation 3



## Simulation Shows:

- Proposed Action**
- 230 kV Transmission Line
- 100' ROW Disturbance
- Simulation 1 - Single Steel Pole, Galvanized Steel
- Simulation 2 - Single Steel Pole, Corten Steel
- Simulation 3 - Wood H-Frame

## Simulation Does Not Show:

- Future Groundwater Development Areas

Existing Conditions



Photo taken along US Hwy 93, approximately 0.25 miles south of Lake Valley summit - looking South

Simulation (Mitigation Measures Applied)



Simulation Shows:

**Alternative Location for the North Lake Valley Pumping Station under Option 2**

- 230 kV + 69 kV Transmission Line: Single steel poles, Corten. As mitigation, powerlines would be surfaced with Shadow Grey paint in sage/creosote plant communities.
- Pipeline Diameter: 66" - 72"
- Pipeline ROW Width: 200' (permanent + temporary)
- New improved access Road
- North Lake Valley Pumping Station and Primary Electrical Substation Site - all buildings and tanks painted with colors from the BLM color palette

Existing Conditions



Photo taken along US Hwy 93, approximately 15 miles south of Alamo, NV - looking southeast

Simulation (Mitigation Measures Applied)



Simulation Shows:

**Proposed Action**

- 230 kV Transmission Line: Wood H-Frame
- 69 kV Transmission Line - Single Steel Pole - surfaced with Corten. As mitigation, powerlines would be surfaced with Shadow Grey paint in sage/creosote plant communities.
- Pipeline Diameter: 78" - 84"
- Pipeline ROW Width: 200' (permanent + temporary)
- Coyote Spring Valley Pressure Reducing Station - all buildings and tanks painted with colors from the BLM color palette

Existing Conditions



Photo taken near the Great Basin National Park boundary (3 miles to west), looking east towards Garrison, Utah (2.5 miles to east)

Simulation (Mitigation Measures Applied)



Simulation Shows:

**Proposed Action and Alternatives A-C**

- 69 kV + 25 kV Transmission Line - surfaced with Corten. As mitigation, powerlines would be surfaced with Shadow Grey paint in sage/creosote plant communities.
- Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter
- Pipeline ROW Width: 200' (permanent + temporary)
- New Access Road with natural-surface mitigation applied.

- Pumping Station (2.5 miles to the northeast) for Alternatives A, B, C, and Alignment Options 1 through 4 - painted with colors from the BLM color palette.

**Simulation Does Not Show**

- Secondary Electrical Substation and Pumping Station (1.75 miles to the south out of the frame) for Alternatives A, B, C, and Alignment Options 1 through 4- Future Groundwater Development Areas.

## **Contrast Rating Forms**

# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Southern Nevada Water Authority
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 1 – on OHV trail east of Hwy 93 into Dry Lake Valley
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTION</b>	230kV + 69kV Transmission Line Pipeline 72”-78” Diameter, 200’ permanent + temporary ROW

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Rugged, steep grades. Numerous large jagged rock outcrops. U-shaped valley.	Complex; irregular patches of grasses; scattered, spotty short shrubs; dotted Joshua trees with moderate height	Tall, vertical, regularly spaced poles.
<b>LINE</b>	Jagged ridgeline, sinuous band of trail winding through concave valley. Diagonal rock banding	Vertical trees; soft, diffuse edge of bushes follows slope; existing OHV trail creates hard edge of bushes/shrubs	Vertical parallel poles, geometric structure construction
<b>COLOR</b>	Tan, gray, dark reds, dark brown	Predominantly dull, with occasional bright green. Light green, dark green, olive gray, tan	Light brown, dark gray, wood color
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse, patchy rock clusters on surface, uneven, rough	Dotted Joshua Trees, gradational shrubs; fine grasslands in low-lying areas	Matte poles, glossy transmission conductors

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smooth	Low	numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles parallels existing OHV trail and transmission line
<b>LINE</b>	Existing OHV trail will be improved creating a slightly wider and more defined band Permanent and temporary ROW will create band	Banded revegetation along ROW	thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing OHV trail and transmission line; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	warm gray, tan, buff	Light tan, light green	Light and dark greys, shiny, metallic
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth	Fine, uniform	Smooth, ordered, dotted, shiny metallic finish

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>			X				X			X		
	<b>LINE</b>		X			X						X	
	<b>COLOR</b>			X			X					X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>			X			X					X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?**

See Ch 3.15 Mitigation section

Vegetation restoration in ROW should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. In addition to the replanting of salvaged Joshua trees and other cacti (ACMs A.1.71 through A.1.78, A.1.80); sage, rabbit brush, and other appropriate shrubs should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 2: Trail adjacent to Delamar Wilderness area East of Hwy 93, south of Dry Lake Valley
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTION</b>	230kV + 69kV Transmission Line Pipeline 72"-78" Diameter, 200' permanent and temporary ROW Delamar Valley Regulating Tank

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Rugged, steep grades. Large domed mass of rock; concave valley.	Irregularly spaced short trees. Predictable spotty shrubs; amorphous masses of shrubs breaking up smoothly sloped grassland	Tall, vertical, regularly spaced poles.
<b>LINE</b>	Rough, concave ridgeline, sinuous band of trail winding through concave valley. Diagonal rock banding	Vertical trees; sharp boundary of grassland/shrub lands	Vertical parallel poles, geometric structure construction, diagonal guy wires
<b>COLOR</b>	Tan, gray, light gray, dull, warm	Light tan grasslands, vibrant yellow flowers, light green trees, dull green shrubs	dark brown, dark gray, wood color
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse, patchy rock clusters on surface	Dotted Joshua Trees, fine grasslands; patchy shrub lands	Matte poles, glossy transmission conductors

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smooth	New geometric patch of vegetation removed for regulating tank site. Low, rectilinear	Large, tall, cylindrical block; numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles parallels existing road and transmission line
<b>LINE</b>	New straight improved road parallel to existing trail and transmission line. Permanent and temporary ROW will create band	New gravel road acts as a band, with hard edge breaking up vegetation. Banded revegetation along ROW	thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing road and transmission line; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines; geometric arrangements, messy
<b>COLOR</b>	warm gray, tan, buff	No Change	Light and dark greys, shiny, metallic
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth	Slightly more discontinuous Fine, uniform	Smooth, ordered, dotted, shiny metallic finish

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>			X				X			X		
	<b>LINE</b>		X				X					X	
	<b>COLOR</b>		X					X			X		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>			X				X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes. See Ch. 3-15 Mitigation.**

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

Regulating tanks would be concrete structures between 130' – 200' in diameter, and 30'-40' high. Painting the concrete a color that harmonizes with adjacent vegetation and soil colors would reduce the visual prominence of the tank and allow it to blend into the existing landscape. An appropriate color would be "Shadow Gray" from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.

Vegetation restoration in ROW should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation. Sage, rabbit brush, and other appropriate shrubs should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from a revegetated ROW that consists of grasses.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Southern Nevada Water Authority
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 3: on trail across Delamar Dry Lake
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTION</b>	230kV + 69kV Transmission Line 200' permanent + temporary ROW Pipeline 52"-72" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Perfectly flat dry lake bed a dominant feature; rugged hills in background	Simple vegetation forms in background; vegetation absent in foreground	Tall, regularly spaced parallel poles.
<b>LINE</b>	Bold horizontal line of lake bed dominant; jagged horizon line	Sharp line dividing lake bed from vegetation	Both vertical and horizontal lines of H-frame poles; geometric
<b>COLOR</b>	Vibrant tans and light browns; dull earth tones in distance	Dark and light greens	Dark brown; dark gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Perfectly smooth lake bed	Medium to smooth scrubland in distance	Ordered, continuous pattern of vertical poles

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change	No changes in vegetation noticeable from KOP	numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles; parallels existing trail and transmission line
<b>LINE</b>	New straight, angular gravel road parallel with edge of lake bed	No changes in vegetation noticeable from KOP	thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing trail and transmission line; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Warm gray, light tan	No changes in vegetation noticeable from KOP	Light and dark greys, shiny
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No change	No changes in vegetation noticeable from KOP	Smooth, ordered, dotted

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X		X		
	<b>LINE</b>			X					X		X		
	<b>COLOR</b>			X					X		X		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X				X			X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? See Ch. 3-15 Mitigation**

Interim and Long-term reclamation grading should match smooth grading to existing lake bed surface.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Southern Nevada Water Authority
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 4: on OHV trail through Delamar Valley
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTION</b>	230kV + 69kV Transmission Line Pipeline 72"-84" Diameter 200' permanent and temporary ROW

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smooth, flat plain is dominant; rough rugged rock formations in background	Prominent, irregular, amorphous Joshua trees; numerous short, predictable shrubs	Vertical poles moderate in height
<b>LINE</b>	Jagged horizon line, smooth flat line of valley floor in foreground; straight band of trail prominent in foreground	Complex shapes of Joshua trees, horizontal boundary of shrub steppe in background	Vertical, regular
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan, light gray, dark reds	Yellow, cool greens, dark greens	Dark brown
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Fairly smooth, lumpy	Dotted Joshua trees, medium continuous shrub cover	Ordered, continuous pattern of vertical poles

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smooth	Smooth, cleared for 200' ROW	numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles; parallels existing transmission line
<b>LINE</b>	Banded path	Banded path	thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing transmission line; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Lighter	Lighter tans, greens, yellows	Light and dark greys, shiny
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth	Smooth	Smooth, ordered, dotted

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>			X			X				X		
	<b>LINE</b>			X			X					X	
	<b>COLOR</b>			X			X				X		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X		X				X		

### D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES? YES

PROPOSED ACTION: Proposed action not follow existing lines (roads and transmission), creates new lines.

NORTH DELAMAR PIPELINE ALTERNATIVE: follows existing lines (roads and transmission). Less contrast than Proposed Action.

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** See Ch. 3-15 Mitigation

Vegetation restoration in ROW should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. In addition to the replanting of salvaged Joshua trees and other cacti (ACMs A.1.71 through A.1.78, A.1.80); sage and other appropriate shrubs should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Southern Nevada Water Authority
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 5: Hwy 93 on eastern edge of Dry Lake Valley
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV + 69kV Transmission Line Pipeline 72"-84" Diameter Dry Lake Valley Regulating Tank Site Primary Substation (to left of view) 200' permanent and temporary ROW

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Flat, slightly rolling plain; rugged blocks on horizon	Prominent, irregular, amorphous Joshua trees; numerous short, predictable shrubs	Vertical poles moderate in height; short blocky (comm. building)
<b>LINE</b>	Bold, straight, hard, vertical (road); jagged horizon	Broken, complex, irregular (Joshua Trees)	Strong, vertical, straight, geometric
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark gray, yellow, white (road); light tan, warm gray	Cool greens, light tans, warm grays, dark green	Dark brown, tan, white
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, lumpy	Dotted Joshua trees, medium continuous shrub cover	Ordered, continuous pattern of vertical poles

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Flat ROW	New geometric patch of vegetation removed for regulating tank site	numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles; parallels existing transmission line; Large, tall, cylindrical block
<b>LINE</b>	New vertical, straight gravel road parallels Hwy 93; another new gravel road parallels existing OHV trail and transmission line, perpendicular to Hwy 93.	New gravel road acts as a band, with hard edge breaking up vegetation along Hwy 93	thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing transmission line; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Warm gray, light tan	No change	Light and dark greys, shiny, metallic
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, bare ROW	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, ordered, dotted, metallic

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>			X				X		X			
	<b>LINE</b>		X					X		X			
	<b>COLOR</b>		X						X	X			
	<b>TEXTURE</b>			X				X			X		

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES? YES**  
ALL ALTERNATIVES:

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** Yes, see 3.15 mitigation and below.

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Regulating tanks would be concrete structures between 130' – 200' in diameter, and 30'-40' high. Painting the concrete a color that harmonizes with adjacent vegetation and soil colors would reduce the visual prominence of the tank and allow it to blend into the existing landscape. An appropriate color would be "Shadow Gray" from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.

Co-locate facilities on same side of US 93, instead of on both sides. Or set back from highway minimum of 500' to reduce visibility from the viewing cone of drivers.

Vegetation restoration in ROW should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. In addition to the replanting of salvaged Joshua trees and other cacti (ACMs A.1.71 through A.1.78, A.1.80); sage, rabbit brush, and other appropriate shrubs should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 6: OHV trail 3 miles north of Hwy 93
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV + 69kV Transmission Line Pipeline 72"-78" Diameter 200' permanent and temporary ROW

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, simple valley; rough, rocky horizon	Prominent, irregular, amorphous Joshua trees; numerous short, predictable shrubs	Vertical poles moderate in height, regularly repeating
<b>LINE</b>	Straight, horizontal valley floor; subtle, horizontal OHV trail; prominent curved, sinuous path cut into landscape; jagged horizon	Broken, complex, irregular (Joshua Trees)	Strong, vertical, straight, geometric
<b>COLOR</b>	light tan, warm gray; dark reds and browns in background	Cool greens, light tans, warm grays, dark green	Dark brown
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Fairly smooth, but lumpy	Dotted Joshua trees; even, random shrub cover	Ordered, continuous pattern of vertical poles

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change from KOP	No Change	numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles; parallels existing transmission line
<b>LINE</b>	New subtle, horizontal gravel road parallels existing OHV trail and transmission line	Slight horizontal gap in vegetation created by new gravel road and ROW parallel with existing gravel road and transmission line.	thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing OHV trail and transmission line; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan	ROW band of vegetation lighter tans, browns, yellows than existing.	Light and dark greys, shiny, metallic
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, ordered, dotted

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X		X		
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X				X	
	<b>COLOR</b>			X					X		X		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? See Ch. 3-15 Mitigation**

Vegetation restoration in ROW should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. In addition to the replanting of salvaged Joshua trees and other cacti (ACMs A.1.71 through A.1.78, A.1.80); sage, rabbit brush, and other appropriate shrubs should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 7: OHV trail 20miles north of Hwy 93
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV + 69kV Transmission Line Pipeline 72"-78" Diameter 200' permanent and temporary ROW

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, simple valley; rough, rocky horizon	numerous short, indistinct, predictable shrubs; simple, patchy, low grasses	Numerous short, regularly repeating vertical fence posts
<b>LINE</b>	Straight, horizontal valley floor; curved, sinuous path cut into landscape; jagged, complex horizon	Continuous, smooth; cut by band of road	Strong, vertical, straight, geometric
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tans, warm grays; dark reds and browns on horizon	Olive greens; dark greens; reddish grays; pale yellows	Dark brown; dark gray; pale yellow; rust
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth valley; coarse horizon	Fine to medium grain; uneven, random distribution of grasses	Smooth metal; even, ordered fence line

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change from KOP	No Change	New numerous tall (short on the landscape from KOP), vertical, regularly repeating poles;
<b>LINE</b>	New subtle, horizontal gravel road, perpendicular to fence line	Slight horizontal gap in vegetation created by new gravel road and ROW	thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan, warm gray	Lighter tans, yellows, browns in ROW	Light and dark greys, shiny, metallic
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change from KOP	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, ordered, dotted

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X			X	
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X			X		
	<b>COLOR</b>			X					X		X		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

New line where no transmission line exists increases contrast.

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation**

Vegetation restoration in ROW should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Greasewood and saltbush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 8: OHV trail 12 miles west of Hwy 93
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV + 69kV + 25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 66"-72" Diameter 200' permanent and temporary ROW

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, simple, rolling, concave valley; rough, rocky, complex horizon	numerous short, indistinct, predictable shrubs; simple, patchy, low grasses; few contrasting large bushes	None
<b>LINE</b>	Straight, horizontal valley floor; long, curved, sinuous band of trail cut into landscape; jagged, complex horizon	Diffuse edge of bushes on horizon; irregular, broken pattern of bushes in foreground; horizontal band of grasses parallel with existing OHV trail; vertical, curving band cuts vegetation in half	None
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tans, warm grays; dark reds and browns on horizon	Grayish greens; yellow tinted green; light greens	None
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, subtle valley; rough, coarse horizon	Uneven, random, coarse bushes in foreground; uniform, fine, shrubs	None

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change	No Change	numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles; parallels existing transmission line
<b>LINE</b>	New subtle, horizontal gravel road parallels existing OHV trail and transmission line; perpendicular to prominent OHV trail in view. Banded ROW	Slight horizontal gap in vegetation created by new gravel road parallel with existing gravel road and transmission line; perpendicular to prominent OHV trail in view	thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing OHV trail and transmission line; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan, gray	Lighter tans, browns, yellows in ROW.	Light and dark greys, shiny, metallic
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, ordered, dotted

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X			X	
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X			X		
	<b>COLOR</b>			X					X		X		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** See Ch. 3-15 Mitigation

Vegetation restoration in ROW should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 9: OHV trail 8 miles west of Hwy 93
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line 69kV + 25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 66"-72" Diameter Pipeline 16"-30" Diameter 200' permanent and temporary ROW Dry Lake Valley North Pressure Reducing Station (Nearby, but not fully in view)

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, undulating valley, smooth undulating hills; rocky, rough, complex horizon	Complex, numerous amorphous patterns; patchy bushes/trees; smooth shrub zones	Indistinct, geometric sign post
<b>LINE</b>	Numerous converging curved trail paths; jagged horizon	Broken, complex, soft boundaries	Hard, geometric, simple
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tans, warm grays, reddish browns; dark grays and browns on horizon	Pale greens; burnt brown, dark green; pale yellows; grayish green	Dark brown; white
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, uniform valley; rough, coarse horizon	Uneven; patchy; random, scattered	Smooth; matte; ordered

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smoother.	No Change	numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles; parallels multiple existing OHV trails. Pressure reducing station blocky.
<b>LINE</b>	New ROW band	Two subtle perpendicular lines of vegetation parallel with existing OHV trails disturbed from construction; newly planted shrubs and grasses	thin, smooth, two perpendicular lines, regular repeating, parallel existing OHV trails; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tans.	Lighter tans, yellows, browns from revegetating ROW	Light and dark greys, shiny, metallic
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, bare	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, ordered, dotted

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>			X				X		X			
	<b>LINE</b>				X	X				X			
	<b>COLOR</b>			X				X		X			
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X	X						X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** See Ch. 3-15 mitigation

Screen pumping station within pinions, out of view from road. Plant additional pinion/juniper to screen from roads long-term.

Pumping station should be painted or constructed with colored block using site-specific colors that will best harmonize with the surrounding vegetation and soil colors. Appropriate colors will be selected from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001. The “Shadow Gray” should be selected if the surrounding vegetation is predominantly sage and brush; the “Beetle” color should be selected if the surrounding vegetation is predominantly pinyon-juniper.

Vegetation restoration in ROW should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage, rabbitbrush, pinyon and juniper should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 10: OHV trail in eastern Cave Valley
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	69kV + 25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 16"-30" Diameter Cave Valley Secondary Substation Site 200' permanent and temporary ROW

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping valley; rough, rugged, rocky horizon	Irregular pattern of numerous trees moderate in height on slopes; uniform ground cover of shrubs and grasses	None
<b>LINE</b>	Bold, sinuous, path cutting across valley floor; diagonal rock bands	Diffuse edge of trees on slopes; hard, well-defined broken pattern of bushes and grasses cut by trail	None
<b>COLOR</b>	Warm gray; white; dark reds and browns on slopes	Pale greens and yellows, dark green on slopes	None
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley; rough, coarse horizon and valley edges	Uniform, fine valley; random, medium, dotted valley edges	None

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Graded pipeline ROW would potentially be more even than existing rough soil surface	Small geometric patch of vegetation removed for substation site	Numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles; parallels existing OHV trail; small, blocky squares in middleground
<b>LINE</b>	New pipeline ROW would parallel the road, but be 10 times wider (200'). With 3.15 mitigation the ROW could be reduced to 50-100 ft.	Subtle vertical, sinuous line of vegetation parallel with existing OHV trail disturbed from construction; newly planted shrubs and grasses	Thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing OHV trail; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines; geometric arrangements, messy
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan, reddish brown, light gray	Slight deviation in color parallel to existing OHV trail; lighter in color	Reddish tan, dark gray; light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth ROW	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, ordered, dotted; shiny metal

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>		X				X			X			
	<b>LINE</b>		X			X				X			
	<b>COLOR</b>		X				X				X		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>		X					X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** See Ch. 3-15 Mitigation

The substation should be painted or constructed with colored block using site-specific colors that will best harmonize with the surrounding vegetation and soil colors. An appropriate color would be “Shadow Gray” from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.

Vegetation restoration in ROW should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage, rabbitbrush, pinyon and juniper should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 11: OHV trail 4 miles west of Hwy 93
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV + 69kV Transmission Line Pipeline 66"-72" Diameter Lake Valley Pumping Station Site and staging area Temporary ROW for pumping station 200' permanent and temporary ROW

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Prominent, bold, pyramidal, domed ridge; moderately sloping valley; rough, rocky horizon	Diverse, contrasting, complex, irregular, patchy	None
<b>LINE</b>	Curved, convex, rugged	Indented, transitional edge of trees and bushes	None
<b>COLOR</b>	Light gray, reddish browns, tan	Dark green, grays, light greens	None
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse ridge transitioning to smooth, fine valley	Random, medium, patchy, contrasty, dotted	None

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Flat graded temporary and pumping station site.	Small, geometric square patch of vegetation would be removed for pumping station site	Numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles; parallels existing OHV trail; large, angular, blocky pumping station building
<b>LINE</b>	Existing OHV trail will be paved with asphalt, creating a wider, more prominent band	Subtle, sinuous line of vegetation parallel with existing OHV trail disturbed from construction; newly planted shrubs and grasses	thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing OH; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines; geometric arrangements, messy
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark gray/black, white, yellow	No Change	Dark gray, light gray, metallic
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Flat, painted.	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, ordered, dotted; shiny metal

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>		X				X			X			
	<b>LINE</b>			X			X				X		
	<b>COLOR</b>		X					X			X		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>			X			X				X		

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** See Ch. 3-15 mitigation and simulation.

The substation should be painted or constructed with colored block using site-specific colors that will best harmonize with the surrounding vegetation and soil colors. An appropriate color would be “Shadow Gray” from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.

Vegetation restoration in temporary and permanent ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 12: On Hwy 93 2 miles north of Lake Valley/Spring Valley summit; within Great Basin National Heritage Area
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV + 69kV + 25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter Spring Valley South Secondary Substation Site

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping valley; large, rough, rocky horizon	Simple, compatible, short shrubs and grasses	Thin, vertical steel roadside poles short in height
<b>LINE</b>	Straight, prominent, wide highway; jagged, rough ridgeline/horizon; horizontal valley	Highway band creates hard edge; irregular, broken edge of grassland areas; complex, indented edge of trees on edges of valley	Vertical, thin, straight
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark gray/black, yellow, white (road); reddish brown, tan; warm gray	Light, pale green; tans; dark green; pale yellow	Light gray, steel, white, black
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley; coarse ridgeline	Medium coarseness; patchy;	Smooth, shiny, reflective

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change	No Change	Numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles parallels existing road
<b>LINE</b>	New straight gravel road parallel to existing highway; new straight, paved road perpendicular to highway	New roads act as bands, with hard edge breaking up vegetation into sections. ROW would create new, 200' wide band parallel to existing road lines.	Thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing road; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Warm gray, dark gray/black, white, yellow, tan	Lighter tans, yellows, browns from revegetating ROW	Rusty, reddish tan, light gray, metallic
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, ordered, dotted, shiny metallic finish

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X		X		
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X			X		
	<b>COLOR</b>			X					X			X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X			X		

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation.**

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- The substation should be painted or constructed with colored block using site-specific colors that will best harmonize with the surrounding vegetation and soil colors. An appropriate color would be “Shadow Gray” from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.
- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 13: on OHV trail on eastern edge of Fortification Range Wilderness
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV + 69kV Transmission Line Pipeline 66"-72" Diameter Spring Valley South Primary Electrical Substation Site Spring Valley South Pumping Station Site

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Flat, smooth, gently sloping, wide valley; prominent, bold, rough, jagged ridgeline	Irregular, contrasting, moderate height trees; low, uniform, numerous bushes	None
<b>LINE</b>	Prominent, wide, straight road cut; horizontal valley floor; jagged, prominent ridgeline	Road band creates hard edge; complex, broken edge of trees	None
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark reds and browns, warm grays, light tans, light grays	Light and pale greens; vibrant greens, dark greens	None
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse, rough ridgeline; smooth, fine valley	Medium to fine shrubs dotted with coarse, sparse, random trees	None

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Flattened.	Geometric acre+ of vegetation would be removed for pumping station & substation site	Numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles; parallels existing OHV trail; large, angular, blocky pumping station and warehouse buildings
<b>LINE</b>	Existing OHV trail will be paved with asphalt, creating a wider, more prominent band	Subtle, sinuous line of vegetation parallel with existing OHV trail disturbed from construction; newly planted shrubs and grasses. Band from ROW.	Thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing OHV trail; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines; geometric arrangements, messy
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark gray/black	Lighter tans, yellows, browns from revegetating ROW	Dark gray, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No significant change	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, ordered, dotted; shiny metal

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X			X		X			
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X			X		
	<b>COLOR</b>		X						X	X			
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X		X			

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** See 3.15 Mitigation

- Match the paint color and concrete color of the structures on the substation site and pumping station site to a color in the existing landscape to reduce the visual prominence of those buildings, and allow them to blend into the existing landscape. An appropriate color would be “Shadow Gray” from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.
- Leave the road with the current natural surface. Paved road contrasts with the existing network of natural-surfaced roads – appears blacker.
- Set back buildings 100 or more feet from the existing road.
- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERV POINT</b>	KOP 14: OHV road south of Highland Ridge Wilderness Area
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	69kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42" – 54" Diameter Snake Valley Regulating Tank Site

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping, rolling valley; prominent rocky, rugged, tall ridge on horizon	Smooth cover of compatible bushes and grasses; random patches of grasses interspersed with shrubs	None
<b>LINE</b>	Slightly diagonal slope, prominent trail/road curving towards horizon; jagged ridgeline	Road/trail band creates hard edge on each side	None
<b>COLOR</b>	Darker tans and grays (soil is wet from recent rain)	Dark green bushes; lighter, paler green and yellow grasses	None
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley slope; coarse, rough ridgeline	Patchy, fine grasses dot medium dense shrub cover	None

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Flattened along ROW	Geometric acre+ of vegetation would be removed for pumping station & substation site	Large, tall, cylindrical block; numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles
<b>LINE</b>	Straight band parallel with existing OHV trail disturbed from construction.	Disturbed, straight, linear band of shrubs/grasses parallelling existing road	Thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, convex line perpendicular to vertical lines parallel existing road
<b>COLOR</b>	Na	Light band of pale yellow, light green along ROW	Rusty, reddish tan, metallic
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth	Low, uniform annual species during reclamation.	Smooth, ordered, dotted

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>			X							X		
	<b>LINE</b>		X					X			X		
	<b>COLOR</b>			X			X					X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>			X				X			X		

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

PROPOSED: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation**

**ALL ALTERNATIVES:**

- Narrow ROW to the minimum width necessary for construction, per 3.15 Mitigation.
- 
- Regulating tanks would be concrete structures between 130' – 200' in diameter, and 30'-40' high. Painting the concrete to harmonize with adjacent vegetation and soil colors would reduce the visual prominence of the tank and allow it to blend into the existing landscape. An appropriate color would be "Shadow Gray" from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.
- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 15: OHV trail south of Highland Ridge Wilderness Area, near Big Spring Wash
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	69kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Prominent, wide, rounded, steep walled wash with flat, smooth top and gently rolling bottom; complex; rough rocky ridgeline on horizon	patches of short, amorphous trees near top of wash, mixed with smooth uniform cover of shrubs on wash slopes, and smooth strip of grasses on wash bottom	None
<b>LINE</b>	Horizontal, bold, smooth; u-shaped; curving channel through wash; jagged, convex ridgeline	Horizontal bands of trees near top of wash; narrow, sinuous patch of grass in wash bottom	None
<b>COLOR</b>	Subtle mixture or reddish tan and light brown; uniform	Dark green; pale green; light green; pale orange	None
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse, uneven, gradational from coarse to smooth	Gradational from coarse on wash top to fine on bottom	None

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	New improved road needed to cross wash, would require lots of cut/fill work; creating a disjointed, complex slope on sides of wash. ROW would create smooth, uniform band.	Cut/fill on slopes of wash would create a patchy, irregular vegetation pattern. Low immature annual species during reclamation.	Tall, vertical, thin poles
<b>LINE</b>	New improved road needed to cross wash; would be sinuous, undulating; ROW would be straight.	Subtle, sinuous line of vegetation disturbed from construction; newly planted shrubs and grasses	Vertical, hard, regular
<b>COLOR</b>	Cut/fill required for road would create areas of contrasting light and dark tans and warm grays. Light soils within disturbed ROW and access road.	Light tans, yellows in ROW.	Dark brown; dark gray, matte (poles); metallic (conductors)
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse; discontinuous access road; smooth ROW band.	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, fine

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>		X					X			X		
	<b>LINE</b>		X			X				X			
	<b>COLOR</b>			X		X				X			
	<b>TEXTURE</b>			X				X			X		

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

PROPOSED: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation.

**ALL ALTERNATIVES:**

- The proposed transmission line, pipeline, and access road routes are shown crossing the existing wash. When crossing, avoid spanning the wash with either two large transmission structures, a road bridge, or with an above ground pipeline supported above the bottom of the wash. Instead, try to have all proposed actions follow the contours of the wash down one slope and back up the other side. This will avoid the need for oversized transmission structures that would be needed to span the wash, as well as an elaborate bridge-type structure needed to support the pipeline and access road. Both of these types of structures would increase the project's visual impact on the landscape.
- Plant new shrubs or trees along edges of any cut/fill areas to help break up the undulating line of the improved road.
- Screen part of the access road from trail views by setting it behind sloping ridgelines on the other side of the transmission line



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 16: on OHV trail 4 miles east of UT Hwy 21; within Great Basin National Heritage Area
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	69kV + 25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Complex; rolling, undulating hills parallel weathered, moderately-sloped, rounded wash; prominent, rocky, steep ridgeline on horizon	Complex; numerous small trees dotted throughout; patchy, uneven coverage of shrubs and bushes	None
<b>LINE</b>	Curved, sinuous two track trail curves through wash bottom; irregular; soft; undulating	Complex; irregular; curving band of grass in center of two track	None
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan and reddish browns; light gray; white	Dark green; dark and light gray; de-saturated greens	None
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse, uneven, random	Coarse, uneven, random; scattered	None

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	New improved road may be needed to cross wash, would require lots of cut/fill work; creating a disjointed, complex slope on sides of wash. ROW would create smooth, uniform band.	Some trees may be removed with construction of transmission line, creating a disjointed patchwork of trees	Tall, vertical, thin poles running parallel to existing OHV trail
<b>LINE</b>	New improved road may be needed to cross wash; would be sinuous, undulating; ROW would be straight.	Narrow, linear patch of young grasses parallel to existing OHV trail indicating pipeline ROW	Vertical, hard, regular
<b>COLOR</b>	Cut/fill required for road would create areas of contrasting light and dark tans and warm grays. Light soils within disturbed ROW and access road.	Light tans, yellows in ROW.	Dark brown; dark gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Existing road would likely be improved, graded, widened.	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, fine; matte (poles); metallic (conductors)

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>			X				X				X	
	<b>LINE</b>			X		X				X			
	<b>COLOR</b>			X				X				X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>		X			X				X			

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

PROPOSED: Yes

OTHER ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation.

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- The proposed transmission line and pipeline routes would cross the existing wash. When crossing, avoid spanning the wash with either two large transmission structures or with an above ground pipeline supported above the bottom of the wash. Instead, try to have both the pipeline and transmission line follow the contours of the wash down one slope and back up the other side. This will avoid the need for oversized transmission structures that would be needed to span the wash, as well as an elaborate bridge-type structure needed to support the pipeline. Both of these types of structures would increase the project's visual impact on the landscape.
- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush, or pinyon and juniper (dependent on specific vegetation cover that is removed) should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 17: on OHV trail 3 miles west of UT Hwy 21 & Pruess Lake, and within Great Basin National Heritage Area
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	69kV + 25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter Snake Valley South Pumping Station Site Snake Valley Secondary Substation

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Complex; rolling, undulating hills parallel weathered, moderately-sloped, rounded wash; prominent, rocky, steep ridgeline on horizon	Complex; few small trees dotted throughout; patchy, uneven coverage of shrubs and bushes; random patches of grass	None
<b>LINE</b>	irregular; soft; undulating; horizontal surface on top of wash; horizontal rock banding in wash slopes	Complex; irregular; curving band of large shrubs and small trees along wash bottom	None
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan and reddish browns; light gray; white	Dark green; light green; grayish green	None
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse, uneven, random	medium, uneven, random; scattered	None

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	New improved road needed to cross wash, would require extensive cut/fill work; creating a disjointed, complex slope on sides of wash. ROW would be straight, smooth	Cut/fill on slopes of wash would create a patchy, irregular vegetation pattern. ROW would result in immature band of low vegetation and annual species.	Numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles; large, angular, blocky
<b>LINE</b>	New improved road needed to cross wash; would be sinuous, undulating. ROW would be straight	New improved road would create a broken pattern of vegetation. ROW band of immature vegetation	thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, convex line perpendicular to vertical lines; geometric arrangements, messy
<b>COLOR</b>	Cut/fill required for road would create areas of contrasting light and dark tans and warm grays.	Revegetation could produce seasonally inconsistent colors (fall and spring) compared to native vegetation.	Rusty, reddish tan, dark gray, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse; discontinuous	Smooth in ROW, none (bare) in access road.	Smooth, ordered, dotted; shiny metal

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>			X			X					X	
	<b>LINE</b>			X			X					X	
	<b>COLOR</b>			X				X				X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>			X			X					X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

PROPOSED: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes**

**ALL ALTERNATIVES:**

- The proposed transmission line, pipeline, and access road routes are shown crossing the existing wash. Standard practice may include spanning the wash with either two large transmission structures, a road bridge, or with an above ground pipeline bridge supported above the bottom of the wash. Instead, all proposed actions should follow the contours of the wash down one slope and back up the other side to the extent feasible. Avoid oversized transmission structures that would be needed to span the wash, as well as an elaborate bridge-type structure needed to support the pipeline and access road by following contours. Both of these types of structures would increase the project's visual impact on the landscape.
- Replant salvaged or plant new shrubs or trees along edges of any cut/fill areas to match existing vegetation to help break up the undulating line of the improved road.
- Pumping station and substation should be painted or constructed with colored block using site-specific colors that will best harmonize with the surrounding vegetation and soil colors. An appropriate color would be "Shadow Gray" from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.
- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 18: NV Hwy 487 2 miles west of Garrison; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	North Snake Valley Pumping Station Site 69kV + 25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Flat, smooth, wide valley; prominent, bold, rough, steep sloped ridgeline	Even, uniform shrub and grass cover on valley slopes; dense, thick bush and tree cover on ridgeline	Simple, regular, vertical poles moderate in height running parallel to existing highway and OHV trail
<b>LINE</b>	Prominent, straight, wide highway; horizontal, straight OHV trail perpendicular to highway; jagged ridgeline	Highway and OHV trail break up vegetation in valley into geometric, regular blocks; well defined complex indented edge of dense bushes and trees along ridgeline	Vertical, thin, regular
<b>COLOR</b>	Reddish tan; light browns; grays	Saturated greens (light and dark), light tan; pale yellow	Dark browns
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse, rough ridgeline; smooth, fine valley	Medium to fine valley	Smooth, matte

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smooth band from ROW	Small, geometric square patch of vegetation would be removed for pumping station & substation site	Numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles; perpendicular to highway; large, angular, blocky pumping station and warehouse buildings
<b>LINE</b>	New paved road perpendicular to highway would create a wider, more prominent band; straight ROW band.	New paved road would create a broken pattern of vegetation; ROW would result in linear area with low, immature annual species during reclamation.	Thin, smooth, vertical, regularly repeating, convex lines perpendicular to vertical lines; geometric arrangements, messy
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark gray/black	Light tans, yellows from ROW reclamation	Dark gray, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth band from ROW	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, ordered, dotted; shiny metal

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X	X					X		
	<b>LINE</b>			X		X						X	
	<b>COLOR</b>			X				X				X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes, see Ch. 3.15 Mitigation.**

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- Matching the paint color and concrete color of the structures on the substation and pumping station site to a color in the existing landscape would reduce the visual prominence of those buildings, and allow them to blend into the existing landscape. An appropriate color would be “Shadow Gray” from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.
- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Greasewood and saltbush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 19: White Pine County Road 42, approximately 1 miles west of Garrison, Utah – looking west to Great Basin National Park (4.5 miles away) ; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	69kV + 25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42”-54” Diameter New paved access road Pipeline ROW Width: 200’ (permanent + temporary)

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, flat, horizontal valley; rough, rocky, prominent, steep ridgeline	Numerous small shrubs interspersed with patchy grasses;	None
<b>LINE</b>	Prominent, wide, straight, vertical OHV trail; horizontal valley floor; jagged, convex ridgeline	OHV trail creates a prominent break in valley vegetation; complex, indented break in vegetation where valley meets ridge	None
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan, warm gray, dark brown, white	Light and dark greens; light tan to pale yellow grasses	None
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth to fine valley; coarse, rugged ridgeline	Medium to fine; even, random	None

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change	Flat, short	Numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles
<b>LINE</b>	New wide, straight, horizontal paved road perpendicular to OHV trail	New paved road would create a horizontal break in vegetation – not apparent from observer position at same elevation (flat terrain), would be visible from higher elevations looking down.	Vertical, thin, regular repeating
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark gray/black	Lighter color (tans, light greens)	Dark gray, light gray, metallic
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change	More discontinuous, smooth, even	Smooth, ordered, shiny metal

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X			X			X		
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X			X		
	<b>COLOR</b>			X				X			X		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** See Ch. 3-15 mitigation and simulation

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Greasewood and saltbush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 20: on OHV trail, 3.25 miles west of Baker; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping valley; domed, rough, rocky ridgeline on horizon	Continuous coverage of small shrubs interspersed with patchy grasses	Vertical, regular, cylindrical poles, moderate in height
<b>LINE</b>	Prominent, wide band of highway, slightly curving towards horizon	Narrow band of grasses and shrubs paralleling highway that divides valley	Vertical, thin, regular; horizontal; straight
<b>COLOR</b>	Light gray, dark gray, white, yellow, warm gray, tan	Light, pale green; dark green; light tan/pale yellow; grayish green	Dark brown
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley; rough, coarse ridgeline	Medium to fine; even; uniform	Smooth, fine, matte

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smooth along ROW	Low vegetation, uniform along ROW until reclamation is complete.	Numerous, vertical, regular, cylindrical poles, moderate in height
<b>LINE</b>	New straight, improved road will parallel existing transmission lines and highway. ROW will be straight.	New road and ROW will act as band, with hard edge breaking up vegetation into sections; Subtle, straight line of vegetation parallel with existing transmission lines and highway disturbed from construction; newly planted shrubs and grasses	thin, vertical, regular repeating, parallel with existing highway and transmission lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Light gray; warm gray, light tan	Light tans, yellows along ROW.	Dark brown
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, fine, matte

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X		X				X		
	<b>LINE</b>			X			X				X		
	<b>COLOR</b>			X			X				X		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>			X			X				X		

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation.

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.
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# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 21: On OHV trail 1 mile south of Connors Pass Summit; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	II
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Complex; prominent, domed, rugged ridgeline; gently sloping valley; steep, rugged ridgeline on horizon	Uniform coverage of trees dotted with amorphous patches of bare rock and low grasses	None
<b>LINE</b>	Curved, sinuous ridgeline; curved band of highway; jagged ridgeline on horizon	Prominent, sinuous, curved ridgelines and highway form breaks of trees and bare rock	None
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan; light brown	Dark green, burnt orange, light green	None
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse, uneven, rough	Coarse, uneven, dotted	None

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change	No Change	Tall cylinders, regularly spaced. Cleared ROW – path, break but only when perpendicular to view. Break would not be seen from KOP 21
<b>LINE</b>	Subtle, straight, rugged unimproved road	Subtle, straight, rugged unimproved road will create a small break in vegetation	Straight arrangement of structures, vertical, thin
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan, warm gray, light brown	Lighter vegetation: tans, browns in ROW.	Dark brown, rust colored structures.
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, fine, matte

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X			X	
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X				X	
	<b>COLOR</b>			X					X			X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

Selecting Alignment Option 1 (Humboldt-Toiyabe Power Line Alignment) would have less visual impact than the Proposed Action (Conner Pass Power Line option)

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes**

See 3.15 Mitigation



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 22: Intersection of US Hwy 6/50 & NV Hwy 893; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	69kV + 25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smooth, gently sloping valley; rugged, rough, complex, steep ridgeline	Short, uneven coverage of shrubs and bushes, dotted with patches of grasses and bare rock	Short, evenly spaced cylindrical fence posts, multiple geometric road signs
<b>LINE</b>	Wide, straight, prominent highways, running perpendicular to each other; jagged ridgeline	Highways create wide, hard, straight breaks in coverage; diffuse, disjointed edge of taller bushes and trees down ridge slope	Vertical, thin, geometric, regular
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan, warm gray, dark gray, white, yellow, light brown, yellow, white	Dark olive green, light pale green; pale yellow and tan	Dark brown, light gray, white, yellow
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley; coarse, uneven, rough ridgeline	Rough, uneven along ridgeline, transitioning to medium to fine in valley, discontinuous	Smooth, fine, shiny metallic

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Straight band from ROW.	Break in existing mature sagebrush, replaced by band of low, young annual species until reclamation is complete.	Prominent, numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating cylindrical poles; parallel existing highways
<b>LINE</b>	New straight, angled improved road parallels existing highways. Band from ROW.	New improved road acts as a band, with hard edge breaking up vegetation	thin, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing highways; convex lines perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Light gray, warm gray, light tan	Light tans, yellows along revegetating ROW	Dark brown, rust, dark gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth	Slightly more discontinuous, uneven	Smooth, fine, ordered

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X		X				X		
	<b>LINE</b>			X			X			X			
	<b>COLOR</b>			X			X				X		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation.

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 28, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 23: on OHV trail in Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, 5 miles west of NV Hwy 893
<b>VQO CLASS</b>	Max Modification
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line (Humboldt-Toiyabe Alternative)

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Complex, steep slopes, domed hills, undulating terrain	Continuous coverage of teardrop-shaped trees with moderate height mixed with short round shrubs/bushes	Multiple parallel sets of tall cylindrical poles; geometric support bars
<b>LINE</b>	Smooth, curved, undulating ridgeline; curved, narrow, sinuous OHV trail	OHV trail creates a subtle break in vegetation	Vertical, geometric, horizontal; thin convex lines perpendicular to vertical poles; multiple parallel sets of vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark tan; light gray; reddish brown	Dark green; light green; grayish green; light gray; pale yellow	Dark brown, light brown, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse, uneven, rough	Coarse, uneven	Matte, fine, smooth

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change	Thin band of trees might need to be removed during construction	Tall cylindrical poles, geometric support bars parallel to existing transmission lines
<b>LINE</b>	No Change	Thin band of trees might need to be removed during construction	Vertical lines parallel with existing transmission lines, geometric, horizontal, convex lines perpendicular to vertical poles
<b>COLOR</b>	No Change	No Change	Dark brown, rust, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change	Slightly more discontinuous	Matte, fine, smooth

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X				X
	<b>LINE</b>				X			X				X	
	<b>COLOR</b>				X				X			X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

Humboldt-Toiyabe Alternative: Yes, see simulation.

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes, see Ch. 3.15 Power line and Conductor Mitigation**



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 28, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 24: on OHV trail in Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, 3 miles west of NV Hwy 893; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VQO CLASS</b>	Modification / Partial Retention
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line (Humboldt-Toiyabe Alternative)

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Complex, moderate to steep slopes, domed hills, undulating terrain; rough, rocky ridgeline on horizon	Complex; uneven distribution of tall to moderate height teardrop-shaped trees; continuous coverage of short bushes/shrubs broken up by patches of bare rock and short grasses	Multiple parallel sets of tall cylindrical and H-frame poles; geometric support bars
<b>LINE</b>	Complex; jagged, undulating ridgeline; curved, narrow, sinuous OHV trail	OHV trail creates a subtle break in vegetation; complex, indented edge of trees	Vertical, geometric, horizontal; thin convex lines perpendicular to vertical poles; multiple parallel sets of vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark tan; light gray; reddish brown	Dark green; light green; grayish green; light gray; pale yellow	Dark brown, light brown, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse, uneven, rough	Coarse, uneven, dotted, scattered	Matte, fine, smooth

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change	No Change	Tall cylindrical poles, geometric support bars parallel to existing transmission lines
<b>LINE</b>	No Change	Thin band of trees might need to be removed during construction	Vertical lines parallel with existing transmission lines, geometric, horizontal, convex lines perpendicular to vertical poles
<b>COLOR</b>	No Change	No Change	Dark brown, rust, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change	Slightly more discontinuous	Matte, fine, smooth

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X			X	
	<b>LINE</b>				X			X				X	
	<b>COLOR</b>				X				X			X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

Humboldt-Toiyabe Alternative: Yes

The Humboldt-Toiyabe option would result in less visual impact than the Proposed Action (Conner Pass option)

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes**

See 3.15 Mitigation



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 28, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 25: at BLM / Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest boundary, on OHV trail, 2 miles west of NV Hwy 893; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM / VQO CLASS</b>	4 / Partial Retention
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line (Humboldt-Toiyabe Alternative)

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping valley; rough, rocky ridgeline on horizon; narrow, horizontal piles of soil around existing well pad	Scattered moderate height teardrop-shaped trees; continuous coverage of short bushes/shrubs broken up by patches of bare rock and short grasses	Multiple parallel sets of tall cylindrical poles; geometric support bars
<b>LINE</b>	Complex; jagged, undulating ridgeline; straight, narrow OHV trail; horizontal band of disturbed ground around existing well pad	OHV trail creates a subtle break in vegetation; complex, discontinuous edge of trees; horizontal band creates gap in vegetation	Vertical, geometric, horizontal; thin convex lines perpendicular to vertical poles; multiple parallel sets of vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark tan; light gray; reddish brown	Dark green; light green; grayish green; light gray	Dark brown, light brown, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Medium to smooth valley; coarse, uneven, rough ridgeline	Coarse, uneven, dotted, scattered	Matte, fine, smooth

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change	Thin band of trees might need to be removed during construction	Tall cylindrical poles, geometric support bars parallel to existing transmission lines
<b>LINE</b>	No Change	Thin band of trees might need to be removed during construction	Vertical lines parallel with existing transmission lines, geometric, horizontal, convex lines perpendicular to vertical poles;
<b>COLOR</b>	No Change	No Change	Dark brown, rust, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change	No Change	Matte, fine, smooth

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X			X			X		
	<b>LINE</b>				X			X				X	
	<b>COLOR</b>				X				X			X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X				X			X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

Humboldt-Toiyabe Alternative: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes, see 3.15 Power and Conductor Design Mitigation**



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 26: on NV Hwy 893, 6.5 miles north of US Hwy 6/50; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, smooth, gently sloping concave valley; prominent rugged, rocky, steep-sloped ridges on either side	Uniform, continuous coverage of low shrubs, dotted with patchy grasses in valley; numerous trees and bushes moderate in height along ridge slopes; patchy clumps of trees in low lying valley (swamp cedars)	Cylindrical poles moderate in height parallel existing highway, regularly spaced
<b>LINE</b>	Concave, simple valley floor; wide, straight band of highway; jagged, irregular ridgelines	Existing highway creates a hard edge breaking up vegetation; diffuse edge transition from trees/bushes to shrubs/grasses along ridge slope	Vertical, horizontal, thin, regular, repeating
<b>COLOR</b>	Warm gray, light tan, light gray, white, yellow	Pale greens; dark green; light green; light brown/tan; pale yellow	Light brown, dark brown, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley floor; rough, coarse, uneven ridgelines	Gradual transition from coarse/medium to fine/smooth along ridge slopes	Smooth, matte,

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Straight, smooth ROW	Thin band of trees might need to be removed during construction	numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating cylindrical poles parallel existing highway
<b>LINE</b>	New wide, straight, improved road parallel to highway	New road acts as band, with hard edge breaking up vegetation into sections	Vertical, thin, regularly repeating
<b>COLOR</b>	Warm gray, light tan, light gray soils from disturbance in ROW	Light tan, yellows in ROW until revegetation is successful.	Dark brown, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth	Slightly more discontinuous, uneven	Smooth, fine, matte

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X			X	
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X				X	
	<b>COLOR</b>			X					X			X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?** Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation.

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 28, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 27: on NV Hwy 488, 2.75 miles west of Baker; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping convex valley; rough, rocky, undulating ridgelines	Continuous coverage of small shrubs interspersed with patchy grasses in valley; taller teardrop-shaped trees along ridge slopes	Tall, angular, geometric roof of shelter, rectangular, flat block of concrete; short blocky forms of seat walls and rusted car; short thin regularly repeating poles
<b>LINE</b>	Subtle bands of curving and straight highways in valley; jagged, undulating ridgelines	Subtle bands with vegetation removed breaks coverage into geometric sections; uneven, indented edge of taller trees along ridge	Vertical, thin, geometric, regularly repeating
<b>COLOR</b>	Tan; dark brown; reddish brown; warm gray	Light, pale green; dark green; light tan/pale yellow; grayish green	Dark brown, light gray, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley; rough, uneven, coarse ridgeline	Medium to fine; even; uniform	Rough, uneven roof and seat wall; smooth, matte

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Visible Change	ROW band	No Visible Change if distribution line undergrounded.
<b>LINE</b>	Very subtle straight, parallel band from new unimproved road along existing highway	Very subtle band of vegetation removed due to new unimproved road paralleling existing highway	No Visible Change if distribution line undergrounded.
<b>COLOR</b>	Lighter exposed soils.	Lighter yellows, tans	No Visible Change if distribution line undergrounded.
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Visible Change	Slightly more discontinuous	No Visible Change if distribution line undergrounded.

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X				X
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X					X
	<b>COLOR</b>			X					X				X
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X					X

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation**

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to reduce visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 28, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 28: on NV Hwy 488, 2.75 miles west of Baker; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping convex valley; rough, rocky, undulating, steep ridgelines	Continuous coverage of small shrubs interspersed with taller teardrop-shaped trees along ridge slopes and in stream valleys	Small, blocky, geometric shapes of buildings in Baker
<b>LINE</b>	Subtle bands of curving and straight highways and dry stream beds in valley; jagged, undulating ridgeline on horizon; diagonal, gently sloping ridgeline	Subtle bands with vegetation removed breaks coverage into geometric sections; uneven, indented edge of taller trees along ridge and in stream valley	None visible from KOP
<b>COLOR</b>	Tan; dark brown; reddish brown; warm gray	Light, pale green; dark green; light tan/pale yellow; grayish green	White; brown, blue
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley; rough, uneven, coarse ridgeline	Medium to fine; dotted, scattered, discontinuous	Coarse, uneven

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smooth re-contouring from ROW	Band of vegetation younger, immature in ROW until revegetation is complete.	No Visible Change if distribution line undergrounded
<b>LINE</b>	Very straight, parallel, wide band from new unimproved road along existing highway	Very subtle band of vegetation removed due to new unimproved road paralleling existing highway	No Visible Change if distribution line undergrounded
<b>COLOR</b>	Light gray, tan	Lighter along ROW	No Visible Change if distribution line undergrounded
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth	Slightly more discontinuous	No Visible Change if distribution line undergrounded

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X				X
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X					X
	<b>COLOR</b>			X					X				X
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X					X

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush, and/or pinyon and juniper (dependant on mix of vegetation removed from ROW) should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 29: in Elk Viewing / Interpretive Area off US Hwy 6/50/93; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, horizontal, gently sloping valley; multiple rough, rocky, domed ridges	Low, sparse, disjointed shrubs mixed with patchy grasses; moderate height, dense trees/bushes on slopes of ridge	Low, parallel cylindrical fence posts
<b>LINE</b>	Horizontal, straight valley floor; complex, jagged ridgeline	Diffuse, gradual edge of trees/bushes on slope	Fences are straight horizontal with vertical poles
<b>COLOR</b>	Warm gray, reddish tan; dark brown	Light green, pale yellow, pale green; dark green	Light gray, dark tan, warm gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley; coarse, complex, disjointed ridgeline	Gradual transition from coarse/medium to fine/smooth along ridge slopes	Smooth, fine, matte

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No change	Thin break in existing vegetation	Numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating cylindrical poles, parallel with vertical fence posts
<b>LINE</b>	New narrow, straight, horizontal unimproved road	No Change	Vertical, thin, ordered
<b>COLOR</b>	Warm gray, reddish tan	No Change	Dark brown, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change	No Change	Smooth, fine, matte

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X		X		
	<b>LINE</b>			X					X		X		
	<b>COLOR</b>			X					X		X - GALVANIZED	X - SHADOW GREY	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X				X			X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

Proposed Action – No

- The proposed transmission structures do not follow any existing linear features and would appear prominently on the landscape across the entire view.

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?**

Proposed Action – Yes, see 3.15 Power Line and Conduction Mitigation

With application of BLM BMPs, ACMs, and 3.15 Mitigation, the Proposed Action would meet visual resource objectives.

The Humboldt-Toiyabe alignment option would have less visual impacts than the Proposed Action (Conner Pass option).



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 30: on NV Hwy 486, 2 miles east of Hwy 6/50/93; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	On Highway ROW near BLM utility corridor managed for VRM IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Complex, undulating, concave valley, moderately steep	Complex, patches of trees/bushes moderate height mixed with patches of short grasses, mixed with patches of bare ground, irregular	Multiple prominent, parallel tall cylindrical poles,
<b>LINE</b>	Multiple curving, sinuous existing roads, jagged, domed ridgeline in the background	Existing roads create unnatural, irregular patches	Vertical, thin, parallel, convex, curved
<b>COLOR</b>	Light gray, warm gray, light tan; reddish tan	Light green, dark green, rust, pale green and yellow; grayish green	Dark brown, dark gray, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse, rough, uneven	Coarse, uneven, disjointed	Smooth, fine, matte, metallic

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change	No Change	Numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating cylindrical poles; parallel existing transmission lines
<b>LINE</b>	No Change	No Change	thin, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing transmission line; convex lines perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	No Change	No Change	Dark brown, rust, dark gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change	No Change	Smooth, fine, ordered

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X			X	
	<b>LINE</b>				X				X			X	
	<b>COLOR</b>				X				X			X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X				X			X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?**

Proposed Action – Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation.

The Humboldt-Toiyabe alignment option would have less visual impacts than the Proposed Action (Conner Pass option).



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 27, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 31: on Hwy 6/50/93 7 miles west of Connor Pass; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping convex valley; complex, rough, rocky ridgelines on valley edges	Uneven coverage of short shrubs, patchy grasses; taller bushes/tress on ridge slopes	Short, scattered cylindrical fence poles
<b>LINE</b>	Horizontal valley floor, jagged, bold ridgelines; prominent, wide highway, straight	Bold, contrasting edge of bushes/trees and shrubs/grasses on ridgeline; highway asks as a hard break in valley	Vertical, thin
<b>COLOR</b>	Warm gray, light tan, white, dark brown	Light, pale green, dark green; grayish green; light tan	Dark gray; dark brown
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley; coarse, rough, uneven, ridgelines	Medium to fine valley	Dotted, scattered, smooth, fine

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change	No Change	Numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating cylindrical poles
<b>LINE</b>	New straight, unimproved road would cross existing highway	New unimproved road acts as a band, with hard edge breaking up vegetation	Thin, vertical, regular repeating, convex lines perpendicular to vertical lines; crosses existing highway
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan, warm gray	No Change	Dark brown, rust, dark gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change	Slightly more discontinuous, uneven	Smooth, fine, ordered

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X		X		
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X			X		
	<b>COLOR</b>			X					X		X-GALVANIZED	X-SHADOW GRAY	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X				X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

Proposed Action – No

- The proposed transmission structures would stop paralleling the existing highway and cross it at an angle of about 35 degrees, continuing on in a predominantly north-south direction. This crossing, with its large angle structure, would be visually dominant on the landscape when travelling on the scenic byway in both directions.

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?**

Proposed Action – Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation.

With application of BLM BMPs, ACMs, and 3.15 Mitigation, the Proposed Action would meet visual resource objectives.

The Humboldt-Toiyabe alignment option would have less visual impacts than the Proposed Action (Conner Pass option).



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 27, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 32: on OHV trail 1.75 miles east of US Hwy 6/50 near Osceola mining ghost town; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	KOP is in VRM Class II Project is in VRM Class III, IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	ROW Power Line and pipeline facilities (6 miles away) Groundwater Development Area (common to all alts, 0.25 miles away)

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping convex valley, rough, steep, rugged, complex ridges on either side of valley	Complex, bushes/trees with moderate height broken up by short shrubs/grasses	Tall, cylindrical power line poles; parallel arrangements
<b>LINE</b>	Jagged, uneven ridgelines; straight, horizontal strip of OHV trail follows slope into valley; wide curving OHV trail; horizontal strips of cleared earth (well-pads)	Complex, indented edge of trees/bushes and shrubs/grasses; OHV trails act as a hard edge, breaking up vegetation	Vertical, thin, geometric, convex lines perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan, dark tan; reddish brown; light gray	Dark green; light green; tan;	Dark brown, light brown, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Uneven, coarse, complex ridgelines; smooth, fine valley	Coarse, uneven, discontinuous	Smooth, fine, matte

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Geometric, square patches with cuts/fills on steeper slopes	Raw, barren	Small wellheads
<b>LINE</b>	New curvilinear and straight dirt access roads	Cleared for new well pads and access roads. Revegetating cuts/fills	Linear power lines extending to several well pads
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan, bright well pads	Revegetation areas may be lighter brown, green than undisturbed areas	Brown wood power line poles, neutral brown well head structures
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, flat	Revegetating areas may be smoother, more even than undisturbed areas	Smooth

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>		X					X				X	
	<b>LINE</b>		X					X				X	
	<b>COLOR</b>		X			X							X
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X					X

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

PROPOSED: Yes with mitigation.

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: see 3.15 mitigation

- Wellhead enclosures should be painted with site-specific colors that will best harmonize with the surrounding vegetation and soil colors. An appropriate color would be “Beetle” from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.
- Vegetation restoration for well pad clearings should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush, and/or pinyon juniper, depending on the vegetation removed at clearing sites, should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from revegetation with fast-growing herbaceous species.
- Access roads should be curvilinear; following the curve of the terrain, rather than cutting across contours.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 33: off US Hwy 6/50, 4.25 west of Sacramento Pass; within Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping valley; prominent, rocky, rough ridgeline	Low, short shrubs with patchy grasses mixed in; taller, more prominent trees/bushes on ridge slopes; patchy clumps of trees in valley floor	Straight poles moderate height, regular pattern
<b>LINE</b>	Wide, slightly curving highway; narrow disturbed strip of earth; jagged ridgeline	Complex, uneven, indented edge of bushes/trees and shrubs/grasses on ridge slope; existing highway and disturbed patch create breaks in vegetation	Vertical, thin, parallel with existing highway; geometric patterns of horizontal lines perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan; light gray, warm gray; dark brown; reddish tan	Light, pale green; dark green; pale yellow	Dark brown, rust, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley; coarse, uneven ridgeline	Smooth, continuous valley slopes, broken up with coarse, dotted patches of trees in valley floor, uneven, coarse ridgelines	Smooth, matte, shiny metallic, fine

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No visible change	No visible change	No visible change if distribution located underground
<b>LINE</b>	Possibility of subtle band of new unimproved road on far side of valley	Possibility of subtle band of disturbed vegetation on far side of valley	No visible change if distribution located underground
<b>COLOR</b>	No visible change	No visible change	No visible change if distribution located underground
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No visible change	No visible change	No visible change if distribution located underground

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X				X
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X					X
	<b>COLOR</b>				X				X				X
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X				X				X

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes, see Ch. 3.15 Mitigation**

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 27, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 34: On US Hwy 93, 1.2 miles south of NV Hwy 894; 4.5 miles south of US 6/50
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III, IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line 42" - 54" Pipeline

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide gently sloping valley; rough, rocky, prominent ridgeline	Patchy mix of short, stubble-like grasses, low shrubs, and taller trees/bushes	Short fence row evenly spaced
<b>LINE</b>	Prominent jagged ridgeline; wide, straight highway	Highway creates a hard edged break in grasses, banding along edge of highway; well-defined edge of trees/shrubs at bottom of ridge slope	Vertical, thin, orderly
<b>COLOR</b>	Light gray, reddish brown; tan	Light green, pale green, dark green, pale yellow, tan, orange	Dark brown
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley; rough, coarse, uneven ridgeline	Coarse, uneven, patchy, discontinuous	Smooth, matte

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Graded pipeline ROW would be more even than existing rough soil surface	Even in ROW	Tall, prominent power line cylinders, evenly spaced, horizontal cylinders
<b>LINE</b>	New unimproved powerline road, almost perpendicular to existing highway will create straight line of disturbed ground following ridge slope. New pipeline ROW would parallel the highway.	New unimproved road line will create prominent, sharp break in vegetation up ridge slopes. New pipeline ROW would parallel highway shoulder line.	Vertical, horizontal, thin, orderly
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan, reddish brown, light gray	Even, lighter brown or green vegetation with little vertical height variation.	Brown, dark gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth ROW	Disjointed, broken for access road. Smooth, even for pipeline.	Matte, fine, shiny metallic

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X				X		X		
	<b>LINE</b>		X			X					X		
	<b>COLOR</b>		X					X		X - GALVANIZED	X - SHADOW GREY		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X			X		

## **D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

Proposed Action – No

The proposed power line structures do not follow existing linear features and would appear prominently on the landscape when crossing the scenic byway and ascending Conner Pass. The removal of existing bushes and trees from the power line along the slopes of the ridge would create a wide path of disturbance that would be visually dominant in views towards the west from the highway, creating strong line and moderate form, color, and texture contrasts. The proposed pipeline would parallel the scenic byway. The new cleared, graded, and revegetated ROW would create moderate line and color contrasts. Combined, these contrasts would not be compatible in a VRM Class III area.

## **D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?**

Proposed Action – Yes, see Chapter 3.15 mitigation for power line design, conductor design, and ROW width. See simulation.

- Wellhead enclosures should be painted with site-specific colors that will best harmonize with the surrounding vegetation and soil colors. An appropriate color would be “Shadow Gray” from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.
- Vegetation restoration for well pad clearings and ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green line revegetation with fast-growing herbaceous species.
- Access roads ascending Conner Pass should be curvilinear; following the curve of the terrain, rather than cutting across contours.

With application of BLM BMPs, ACMs, and 3.15 Mitigation, the Proposed Action would meet visual resource objectives.

The Humboldt-Toiyabe alternative transmission alignment option would have less of an impact on the landscape, given it follows multiple existing 230kV transmission corridors and its visibility from major US highways would be considerably less than the Proposed Action (Conner Pass option)



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 27, 2009, March 18, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 35: On US Hwy 93, just south of Lake Valley Summit
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>NORTH LAKE VALLEY ALIGNMENT OPTION ONLY (PROPOSED ACTION WOULD NOT BE VISIBLE)</b>	230kV + 69kV Transmission Line: Single steel poles, core-ten steel - Pipeline Diameter: 66" - 72" - Pipeline ROW Width: 200' (permanent + temporary) - New improved access Road - Lake Valley Pumping Station and Primary Electrical Substation Site

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, flat valley; rough, rocky, uneven, prominent ridgeline	Short, continuous coverage of shrubs mixed with patches of short grasses	Geometric shapes, moderate in height, mounted on short cylindrical poles
<b>LINE</b>	Prominent, wide straight existing highway; horizontal valley floor, jagged ridgeline	Existing highway creates hard break in vegetation; well defined edge of grass patches	Vertical, rectangular, geometric, trapezoidal
<b>COLOR</b>	Light dray, dark gray, reddish brown; light tan	Light green, dark green, orange; light tan	Yellow, black, light gray, dark brown
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley floor; rough, uneven, coarse ridgeline	Medium to smooth coverage of shrubs, with patches of fine, smooth grasses	Fine, smooth, matte

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Break from graded ROW, would appear smoother	Small, geometric square patch of vegetation would be removed for pumping station & substation site. ROW would appear as band of young annual species.	Numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles; parallels existing highway; large, angular, blocky pumping station and warehouse buildings
<b>LINE</b>	New wide, straight, improved road parallel to highway	New road and ROW acts as band, with hard edge breaking up vegetation into sections	Thin, smooth, vertical, regular repeating, parallels existing highway; convex line perpendicular to vertical lines; geometric arrangements.
<b>COLOR</b>	Warm gray, light tan, light gray	Light tans, yellows, greens from ROW revegetation.	Rusty, reddish tan, dark gray, light gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change	Slightly more discontinuous, uneven	Smooth, ordered, dotted; shiny metal

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X			X				X	
	<b>LINE</b>			X				X		X - GALVANIZED	X - SHADOW GREY		

	COLOR			X					X		X		
	TEXTURE				X			X			X		

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

North Lake Valley Alternative D – No, see simulation.

- Highway 93 is a designated scenic byway along proposed substation and pumping station site. These facilities together with the new transmission line will create visually dominant features on the landscape that is otherwise free from human activity. The KOP also provides views of impacts to landscapes within the great Basin National Heritage Area; however, there is no authority to regulate the impact to Heritage Area features.

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED?**

North Lake Valley Option – Yes, see Ch 3. 15 Mitigation. If this option is selected:

- All pumping station and substation buildings and tanks should be painted or constructed with colored block using site-specific colors that will best harmonize with the surrounding vegetation and soil colors. An appropriate color would be “Shadow Gray” from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.
- Fences shall be slatted and painted Shadow Grey.
- Paint 230-kV steel poles Shadow Grey or use wood H-frames.
- If feasible, relocate warehouse to different location – at other project facilities not located along scenic byways.
- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.

With application of BLM BMPs, ACMs, and 3.15 Mitigation, the Proposed Action would meet visual resource objectives.

The Proposed Action would have less visual impacts than the North Lake Valley alignment option. The proposed action alternative moves the pumping station and primary substation site away from US Highway 93 9.5 miles to the southeast, on the east side of the Fortification Range. This location for the project facilities would not affect the views of those travelers along the scenic byway.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 27, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 36: On US Hwy 93, on eastern edge of Pahrnagat National Wildlife Refuge
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	Coyote Valley Pressure Reducing Station 230kV Transmission Line Pipeline 78" – 84" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Narrow, moderately sloped valley; rough, rocky complex valley walls	Sparse coverage of short grasses with scattered low height bushes/shrubs	Tall and short cylindrical poles
<b>LINE</b>	Curved, wide, prominent highway; diagonal rock bands; vertical rock walls; jagged ridgeline	Highway creates a hard edged break in vegetation; narrow band of shrubs parallels highway	Vertical, thin, geometric arrangement, parallel to existing highway
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark brown, dark gray, light gray, reddish brown	Dark green, light tan, light green, reddish tan, pale yellow	Light brown, white, dark gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Coarse, uneven, complex	Uneven, medium coarseness, patchy, discontinuous, dotted	Smooth, fine, matte

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smooth ROW from grading	Geometric patch of vegetation to be removed for pressure reducing station. ROW would result in low annual species during reclamation.	Large, tall cylindrical tanks; blocky, angular rectangular buildings; numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating cylindrical poles parallel existing transmission lines
<b>LINE</b>	Existing OHV trail parallel with existing highway likely to be improved, graded, and made wider	Existing OHV trail likely to be improved and made wider, creating a harder edge to grasses	Vertical, thin, geometric arrangements; messy; parallels existing transmission line
<b>COLOR</b>	Light exposed soils	Light tan, yellow in ROW.	Light tan, light gray, dark brown, dark gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Existing HOV trail parallel with existing highway likely to be improved, graded, and made smoother	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, fine, matte, shiny metallic

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>			X			X			X			
	<b>LINE</b>		X				X				X		
	<b>COLOR</b>			X				X			X		
	<b>TEXTURE</b>		X				X					X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes, see simulation.

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes, see Ch. 3.15 Mitigation.**

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- Station buildings and other facilities will be painted or constructed with colored block using site-specific colors that will best harmonize with the surrounding vegetation and soil colors to reduce the visual prominence of the facility and allow it to blend into the existing landscape. An appropriate color would be “Shadow Gray” from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.
- The proposed transmission line should either be located directly adjacent to the ON Line Transmission Project under construction, or directly adjacent to an existing transmission line along Hwy 93 would reduce the visual impacts by consolidating the transmission corridor.
- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.
- Set back buildings 100 or more feet from the existing road.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 28, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 37: on US Hwy 93, 23 miles north of NV Hwy 168
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	At boundary of VRM Class III, IV
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line Pipeline 78" – 84" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping valley; complex, rocky, undulating ridgelines	Continuous, even coverage of short shrubs, bare rock faces on ridgelines	Tall cylindrical poles, regular intervals, parallel with existing highway
<b>LINE</b>	Wide, straight, prominent highway; jagged ridgelines	Highway creates a hard edge band that creates gap in coverage; band of grasses/shrubs on its borders; existing disturbance creates a band of shrubs/grasses on its edges	Vertical, thin, regular, geometric arrangements
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark brown, light brown, reddish brown, light gray	Dark green, light green, yellow	Dark brown
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley, rough, coarse ridgelines	Medium, even, random	Fine, smooth, matte

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smooth	Break in existing vegetation from new ROW; low uniform annual species.	Tall, vertical, thin poles parallel with existing highway
<b>LINE</b>	New ROW and straight, improved road will parallel existing highway	New road will act as band, with hard edge breaking up vegetation into sections; Subtle, straight line of vegetation parallel with existing highway disturbed from construction; newly planted shrubs and grasses	Vertical, hard, regular, parallel with existing highway
<b>COLOR</b>	Light brown, light gray, reddish brown, more exposed soils	Light tans, yellows in ROW	Dark gray, matte (poles); metallic (conductors)
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth graded ROW	Smooth	Smooth, fine

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>			X				X				X	
	<b>LINE</b>		X				X				X		
	<b>COLOR</b>		X					X				X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>			X			X					X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes, see Ch. 3.15 Power Line and Conductor Design Mitigation**

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- The proposed transmission line route is located on the east side of US Hwy 93 close to the highway. The transmission line should either be located directly adjacent to the ON Line Transmission Project under construction, or directly adjacent to an existing transmission line on the west side of Hwy 93 would reduce the visual impacts by consolidating the transmission corridor.
- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 28, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 38: on US Hwy 93, 12 miles north of NV Hwy 168
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line Pipeline 78" – 84" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping valley; complex; multiple rocky, undulating ridgelines	Complex; patch of tall, mature trees forming an RV park; short, random coverage of bushes/shrubs mixed with patches of short grasses; large geometric square of bare rock with vegetation removed	Tall cylindrical poles, regular intervals, parallel with existing highway; short vertical and horizontal poles parallel with existing highway; various blocky, angular, rectangular forms
<b>LINE</b>	Wide, straight, prominent highway; jagged ridgelines; band of distributed ground parallels existing highway	Highway creates a hard edge band that creates gap in coverage; existing disturbance creates gap in vegetation	Vertical, horizontal, thin, regular, geometric arrangements
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark brown, light brown, reddish brown, light gray	Dark green, light green, yellow	Dark brown, white
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley, rough, coarse ridgelines	Coarse, uneven, random, discontinuous	Fine, smooth, matte

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	No Change	No Change	Tall, vertical, thin poles parallel with existing highway
<b>LINE</b>	New straight, improved road will parallel existing highway	New road will act as band, with hard edge breaking up vegetation into sections	Vertical, hard, regular, parallel with existing highway
<b>COLOR</b>	Light brown, light gray, reddish brown	No Change	Dark brown; dark gray, matte (poles); metallic (conductors)
<b>TEXTURE</b>	No Change	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, fine

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X			X			X		
	<b>LINE</b>			X		X				X			
	<b>COLOR</b>			X				X				X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X	X						X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation**

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- The proposed transmission line route is located on the east side of US Hwy 93 close to the highway. The transmission line should either be located directly adjacent to the ON Line Transmission Project under construction, or directly adjacent to an existing transmission line on the west side of Hwy 93 would reduce the visual impacts by consolidating the transmission corridor.
- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 28, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 39: on US Hwy 93, 11.5 miles south of NV Hwy 168
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line Pipeline 78" – 84" Diameter

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping convex, valley; complex, prominent rocky, undulating, steep ridgelines	Continuous, even coverage of short shrubs, bare rock faces on ridgelines, scattered, dotted, coverage of moderate height Joshua trees	Tall cylindrical poles, regular intervals, parallel with existing highway
<b>LINE</b>	Wide, straight, prominent highway; jagged ridgelines; convex valley floor	Highway creates a hard edge band that creates gap in coverage	Vertical, horizontal, thin, regular, geometric arrangements; convex lines perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark brown, light brown, reddish brown, light gray	Dark green, light green, yellow; gray	Dark brown
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley, rough, coarse ridgelines	Medium, even, random	Fine, smooth, matte

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smoother from ROW grading	Break in ROW, with young, uniform annual species	Tall, vertical, thin poles parallel with existing highway and transmission line. Buried water reservoir would be
<b>LINE</b>	New straight, improved road will parallel existing highway	New road and ROW will act as band, with hard edge breaking up vegetation into vertical strips parallel with existing highway and transmission line	Vertical, hard, regular, parallel with existing highway and transmission line
<b>COLOR</b>	Light brown, light gray, reddish brown exposed soils	Light tans, yellows in ROW	Dark gray, matte (poles); metallic (conductors)
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smoother	Smoother	Smooth, fine

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>			X				X			X		
	<b>LINE</b>			X		X				X			
	<b>COLOR</b>			X				X				X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X	X						X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes, see 3.15 Mitigation**

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- The proposed transmission line should either be located directly adjacent to the ON Line Transmission Project under construction, or directly adjacent to an existing transmission line on the west side of Hwy 93 would reduce the visual impacts by consolidating the transmission corridor.
- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Sage and rabbitbrush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	July 20, 2009, May 17, 2011
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Wiedmeyer, J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 40: on US Hwy 93, 6 miles west of I-15
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	230kV Transmission Line Pipeline 78" – 84" Diameter Buried Storage Reservoir Water Treatment Facility

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, gently sloping valley; complex, prominent rocky, undulating, steep ridgelines; linear road cut creates moderate slopes in valley floor	Continuous, even coverage of short shrubs and grasses, bare rock faces on ridgelines, scattered, dotted, coverage of moderate height Joshua trees	Tall cylindrical poles, regular intervals, perpendicular with existing highway; large, tall blocky form on valley horizon
<b>LINE</b>	Wide, curved, prominent highway; jagged ridgelines; narrow, subtle band of OHV trail perpendicular to highway	Highway and OHV trail creates a hard edge band that create gaps in coverage	Vertical, horizontal, thin, regular, geometric arrangements; convex lines perpendicular to vertical lines
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark brown, light brown, reddish brown, light gray, light tan	Pale green, light green, yellow; gray; reddish gray	Dark brown; gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth, fine valley, rough, coarse, uneven ridgelines and road cut	Medium, even, random	Fine, smooth, matte

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Smooth in graded ROW	Break in vegetation from ROW, young annual uniform species	Blocky, angular rectangular buildings; numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating cylindrical poles parallel with existing transmission lines
<b>LINE</b>	Existing improved road will be paved, ROW would creating a wider and more defined band than existing conditions	New paved road will create a more well defined band, with hard edge breaking up vegetation into sections	Vertical, thin, geometric arrangements; parallels existing transmission line
<b>COLOR</b>	light gray, reddish brown exposed soils	Light tan, yellow ROW	Light tan, light gray, dark gray
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth	Slightly more discontinuous	Smooth, fine, matte, shiny metallic

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>			X			X				X		
	<b>LINE</b>		X				X					X	
	<b>COLOR</b>		X					X				X	
	<b>TEXTURE</b>			X			X					X	

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? Yes**

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- The proposed transmission line should either be located directly adjacent to the ON Line Transmission Project under construction, or directly adjacent to an existing transmission line on the west side of Hwy 93 would reduce the visual impacts by consolidating the transmission corridor.
- Currently, the buried storage reservoir and water treatment facility site is about ½ miles south of US Hwy 93. Moving the site further south, away from the highway and closer to an existing combined cycle gas turbine generation facility 1.5 miles south of the proposed site would reduce the facilities' visual impacts. The structures would appear smaller on the landscape and would seem to be a part of the existing gas facility.
- Water treatment facility structures should be painted or constructed with colored block using site-specific colors that will best harmonize with the surrounding vegetation and soil colors. An appropriate color would be "Shadow Gray" from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.
- Vegetation restoration in ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Appropriate shrubs and cactus should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green stripping the ROW with fast-growing herbaceous species.



# VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

## SECTION A: PROJECT INFORMATION

<b>PROJECT NAME:</b>	Clark, Lincoln, & White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project
<b>DATE(S)</b>	September 30, 2010
<b>EVALUATOR</b>	J. Call
<b>KEY OBSERVATION POINT</b>	KOP 41: Near the Great Basin National Park boundary (3 miles to west), a context-dependent cultural resource site looking towards Garrison, Utah (2.5 miles to east), and in the Great Basin National Heritage Area.
<b>VRM CLASS</b>	III
<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITY</b>	69kV + 25kV Transmission Line Pipeline 42"-54" Diameter New paved access road Pipeline ROW Width: 200' (permanent + temporary) Secondary Electrical Substation (2+ miles away) Pumping Station (2+ miles away) Future Groundwater Development Areas

## SECTION B: CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Wide, flat, horizontal valley; steep hillside	Numerous small shrubs interspersed with patchy grasses;	Clustered town of Garrison with rectangular buildings.
<b>LINE</b>	Prominent, wide, straight, OHV trail; horizontal valley floor;	OHV roads creates a prominent, continuous lines in homogeneous valley vegetation;	None
<b>COLOR</b>	Light tan, warm gray, dark brown, white	Light and dark greens; light tan to pale yellow grasses	Dark green/olive shade trees, bright white buildings
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth to fine valley; coarse, rugged ridgeline	Medium to fine; even, random	Grouped, clustered.

## SECTION C: PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
<b>FORM</b>	Flat	Flat, short	Numerous tall, vertical, regularly repeating poles
<b>LINE</b>	New wide, straight, horizontal paved road perpendicular to OHV trail	Cleared ROW and paved road would create a horizontal break in vegetation – contrast increased from higher elevations looking down such as Great Basin National Park.	Vertical, thin, regular repeating
<b>COLOR</b>	Dark gray/black	Lighter color (tans, light greens)	Dark gray, light gray, metallic
<b>TEXTURE</b>	Smooth	More discontinuous, smooth, even	Smooth, ordered, shiny metal

## SECTION D: CONTRAST RATING

		1. LAND/WATER				2. VEGETATION				3. STRUCTURES			
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE
<b>ELEMENTS</b>	<b>FORM</b>				X			X			X		
	<b>LINE</b>		X			X				X			
	<b>COLOR</b>			X		X				X			
	<b>TEXTURE</b>				X			X				X	

**COMMENTS:**

Viewer sensitivity is high at this location due to a context-dependent cultural resource site, and proximity to Great Basin National Park, the Great Basin National Heritage Area, and Garrison, UT. Most viewers would see the project either from a) Garrison or Highways 21/159/487 at a similar elevation looking towards Great Basin National Park or b) from elevated points within Great Basin National Park looking down on the broad, flat valley.

Five project components create visual contrasts: 1) the 300' ROW undergoing reclamation (Simulation 82 assumes 5 years of grass re-growth) which results in a solid, smooth, light-colored band across homogenous plant communities; 2) the double-circuit 69kV and 25kV power line which adds new vertical poles within a viewshed that does not contain high-voltage transmission infrastructure; 3) a new paved road that contrasts the existing network of natural-surfaced roads; 4) a secondary electrical substation (beyond 2 miles, not simulated); and 5) a pumping station (beyond 2 miles, not simulated).

**D1. DOES THE PROJECT DESIGN MEET VISUAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES?**

ALL ALTERNATIVES: Yes

**D2. ADDITIONAL MITIGATING MEASURES RECOMMENDED? See Ch. 3.15 mitigation and simulation**

ALL ALTERNATIVES:

- Reduce the ROW from 300' to 100-200' to reduce the prominent width of the cleared areas.
- Leave the road with the current natural surface. Paved road contrasts with the existing network of natural-surfaced roads – appears blacker.
- The new road would change travel patterns and likely provide for creation of new OHV trails resulting in additional, indirect visual contrasts. Travel management mitigation (signs, fences) should be incorporated to minimize OHV road creation.
- The power line, substation, pumping station, and wellhead enclosures should be painted with site-specific colors that will best harmonize with the surrounding vegetation and soil colors. An appropriate color would be “Shadow Gray” from the BLM Standard Environmental Colors Chart CC-001.
- Vegetation restoration for well pad clearings and ROWs should create texture and color that is similar to the surrounding natural vegetation to eliminate or minimize visual impact. Greasewood and saltbush should be planted in addition to BLM recommended seed mix to avoid the texture and color contrasts that would occur from Green line revegetation with fast-growing herbaceous species.
- Well site access roads should be curvilinear; following the curve of the terrain, rather than cutting across contours.

