



Cultural Resources Report

September 30, 2024



US-CA-5825 Nightmare Rock

1203 Lubken Canyon Road

Lone Pine, Inyo County, California 93526

Trileaf # 749151

Prepared For:

VB BTS II LLC

750 Park of Commerce Drive
Boca Raton, FL 33487

Prepared By:

Trileaf Corporation

1515 Des Peres Road, Suite 200
St. Louis, MO 63131

Cultural Resources Study

NIGHTMARE ROCK

Verizon Wireless Project No. 16994416
1203 Lubken Canyon Road, Lone Pine
Inyo County, California 93526

September 2024



PREPARED FOR:

Trileaf Corporation
2121 West Chandler Boulevard, Suite 108
Chandler, AZ 85224

PREPARED BY:

Historic Resource Associates
3142 Bird Rock Road
Pebble Beach, CA 93953

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary.....	1
Abstract	2
Introduction.....	3
Project and Project Site.....	3
Subject Property	3
Environmental Setting	3
Prehistoric and Ethnographic Overview	4
Historic Context.....	6
Tribal Consultation.....	6
National and State Register Files	6
Historic Map and Aerial Photograph Review.....	7
Archaeological and Historical Sensitivity of the APE-DE	7
Pedestrian Survey	7
Conclusion and Recommendations.....	7
References.....	7

Attachment A: Figures

Attachment B: Photograph Record

Attachment C: Project Site Plans

Summary

SHPO Project Review Number (if available): NA

Involved State and Federal Agencies (DEC, CORPS, FHWA, etc.): FCC

Phase of Survey: Site Assessment

Local Information

Location: 1203 Lubken Canyon Road

Minor Civil Division: Lone Pine

County: Inyo

Survey Area (Metric and English)

Length: NA

Width: NA

Depth (when appropriate): NA

Number of Acres Surveyed: 0.020 acres

Number of Square Meters & Feet Excavated (Phase III only): NA

Percentage of the Site Excavated (Phase III only): NA

USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map: *Lone Pine, California*

Archaeological Survey Overview

Number & Interval of Shovel Tests: 0

Number & Size of Units: NA

Width of Plowed Strips: NA

Surface Survey Transect Interval: 1 meter

Results of Archaeological Survey

Number & name of prehistoric sites identified: None

Number & name of historic sites identified: None

Number & name of sites recommended for Further Assessment/Avoidance: None

Report Author(s): Dana E. Supernowicz, M.A., RPA

Report Date: September 28, 2024

SHPO Project Review Number (if available): NA

Involved State and Federal Agencies (DEC, CORPS, FHWA, etc.): FCC

Abstract

The Project Site, identified as Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 026-150-30-00, is located near 1203 Lubken Canyon Road in Lone Pine, Inyo County, California. The proposed Verizon Wireless unmanned telecommunications facility will include the establishment of a 30' x 30' (900 square feet/0.020 acres) lease area; installation of a new 150' high monopole; installation of a new 400A meter main with 200A VZW meter; installation of three (3) new equipment cabinets; installation of one (1) telco cabinet; installation of one (1) ILC panel; installation of one (1) new GPS antenna; installation of five (5) new service lights; installation of one (1) new 30 kW diesel generator with 210 gallon tank; installation of three (3) C-band panel antennas; installation of six (6) LTE panel antennas; installation of six (6) LTE RRUs; installation of two (2) 4' MW antennas; and installation of four (4) surge suppressors (2 at equipment location and 2 at antenna location).

Per the FCC's definition, the Area of Potential Effect-Direct Effects (APE-DE) consists of any area that will be disturbed or incur subsurface grading as part of the proposed project. The Area of Potential Effect-Visual Effects (APE-VE) includes an approximate zone of a ½ mile (804.7m) radius around the project site.

Several months ago, the Eastern Information Center (EIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) in Riverside was closed. The records, according to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), are in transition with Inyo County, reportedly being transferred to the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC) in Bakersfield. At present, the records from Inyo County are not accessible for consultants. Based upon the California State Historic Preservation Office (CASHPO) Built Environment Resource Directory (BERD), there were zero (0) National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), or National Historic Landmarks (NHL) listed properties identified in the project APE-DE or APE-VE.

The precontact sensitivity of the APE-DE appears to be low, due to the lack of identified archaeological resources in the APE-DE and APE-VE and the lack of proximate natural water sources within a mile of the proposed project. A pedestrian survey of the project site performed on September 24, 2024 failed to identify any prehistoric archaeological or historical archaeological sites, features, or artifacts in the project APE-DE. Consequently, it is my professional opinion that the APE-DE has low potential for buried subsurface archaeological deposits, and no further archaeological study is recommended for this project.

Introduction

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requires licensees and their representatives to consider the effects of their actions on historic properties, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (Federal Communications Commission 1996). Historic properties include Native American or European-American archaeological sites, architectural resources (historic districts and standing structures), objects, and traditional cultural properties. Applicants are required to assess and report all potential environmental effects as part the Section 106 process prior to construction.

This cultural resources study was completed by Dana E. Supernowicz, M.A., RPA, Principal of Historic Resource Associates on September 28, 2024, in accordance with state guidelines (California State Historic Preservation Office). It is intended to provide information that will enable the California State Historic Preservation Office (CASHPO) to review the subject project. The Principal Investigator meets and/or exceeds the qualifications described in the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Guidelines (Federal Register 48:190:44738-44739) (United States Department of the Interior 1983).

Project and Project Site

The Project Site, identified as Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 026-150-30-00, is located near 1203 Lubken Canyon Road in Lone Pine, Inyo County, California. The proposed Verizon Wireless unmanned telecommunications facility will include the establishment of a 30' x 30' (900 square feet/0.020 acres) lease area; installation of a new 150' high monopole; installation of a new 400A meter main with 200A VZW meter; installation of three (3) new equipment cabinets; installation of one (1) telco cabinet; installation of one (1) ILC panel; installation of one (1) new GPS antenna; installation of five (5) new service lights; installation of one (1) new 30 kW diesel generator with 210 gallon tank; installation of three (3) C-band panel antennas; installation of six (6) LTE panel antennas; installation of six (6) LTE RRUs; installation of two (2) 4' MW antennas; and installation of four (4) surge suppressors (2 at equipment location and 2 at antenna location) (Attachment C: Project Site Plans).

Subject Property

The subject property is developed with a circa 1970s-1980s wood-frame building used as a Pheasant Hunting club. Other improvements include wells, a pond, irrigation, power, pastures, and corrals.

Environmental Setting

The Project Area is located southwest of Lone Pine near the Owens Valley on the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada Mountains at an elevation of 4,612 feet, according to the 2021 United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' *Lone Pine, California* Topographic Quadrangle Map (Figure 1). The topography of the subject property is gradually sloping to the south (Photographs 1-25).

According to the geologic map of the area, the project site lies atop alluvium attributed to granite. Consequently, the project site does not lay atop geological resources often used for tool production. According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey (WSS), the

dominant soil composition in the vicinity of the project site is classified as 188 Dehy-Conway Lubkin association with 0-9% slopes (NRCS Website 2024).

Native groups living near the project area would carry out seasonal settlement patterns that would allow them to best exploit resources in the region; migrating to and from various natural water sources, gathering areas, and hunting grounds. Precontact groups in the region in which the project area is located would have subsisted primarily on pinon pines, seasonal plants, insects, as well as game animals harvested from the surrounding valley and nearby mountains.

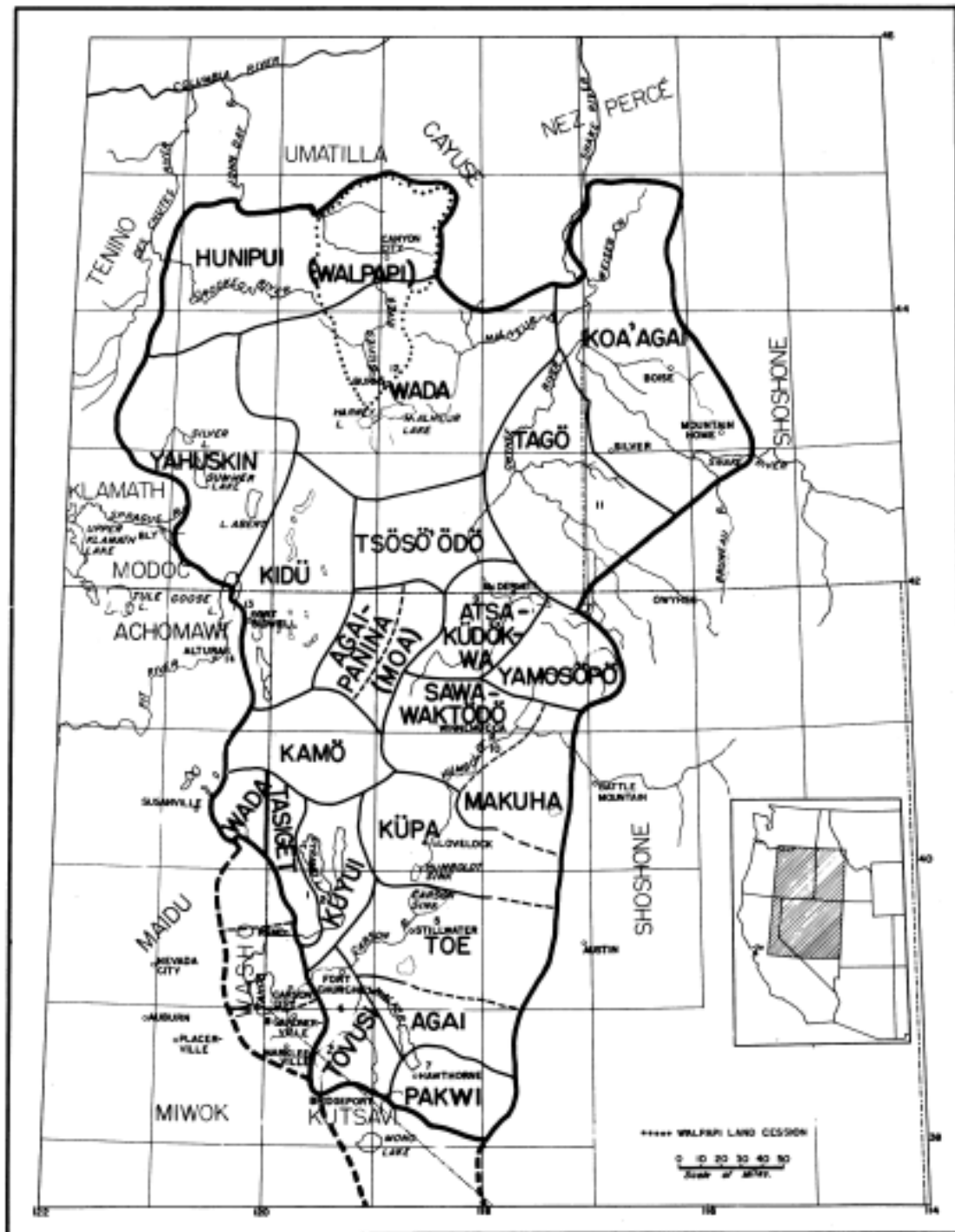
Prehistoric and Ethnographic Overview

The project area is part of the ancestral land of the Paiute. The prehistoric cultural setting of the APE is relevant to the Great Basin and Mojave Desert cultural area. The prehistory of the region encompasses a period of more than 12,000 years before present (BP), from the Late Pleistocene through the Late Holocene prior to European contact. Five ethnographically distinct Native American groups - the Owens Valley Paiute, Western Shoshone, Kawaiisu, Serrano/Vanyume, and Southern Paiute - are traditionally associated with areas included in the project location (Steward 1933).

Two linguistically distinct groups, the Paiute and the Shoshone, formed the native population of the Owens Valley. Occasional hunting forays extended into the Sierra Nevada and White Mountains or open areas east of Owens River. In his ethnography of the Owens Valley Paiute, Steward (1933) worked with his informants to map known place names for camps and villages, irrigated fields, gathering locations, hunting territories, trails, springs, other resource locations, geographic landmarks, and places where mythological events occurred (Steward 1933). The APE intersects with five Owens Valley Paiute territorial districts: *pitanapaùti* (near Bishop Creek), *iti ' itiwiiùti* (between Bishop and Big Pine), *tobowahamati* (around Big Pine), *panati* (south of Big Pine), and *tinihuùwiùti* (stretching from north of Fort Independence to the northwest side of Owens Lake Supported by the streams from the snow-capped Sierra Nevada, the Owens Valley had ample marshes and grasslands. The Sierra Nevada ranges provided junipers, piñon, and pines at altitudes greater than 1,828 m (6,000 feet). Along these mountain ranges, there are pinecone processing areas significant to the ethnographic history of the Paiute and other Native American groups (Steward 1933; California Public Utilities Commission Website 2024).

Steward (1933) identified some of these pinecone processing areas worth noting for their proximity to the APE: 1) a village near Lone Pine called *paha'awitu* or "mortar place," 2) the village of *tupu'si witu* or "seed plant," and 3) the village of *tonova witu* or "salt brush," both located northeast of the Alabama Hills (Steward 1933). Other locations mapped by Steward are a camp and irrigated area near Freeman Creek and the Keough Hot Springs, and numerous plant-gathering localities with irrigated plots south of Bishop Creek north of the villages located in Bishop at the time. Significant locations from oral legends recorded by Steward (1933) include a cave near Fish Spring where a mythological giant lived, a fishing locale near Hines Spring where bad spirits known as "water babies" dwelled, and a large plateau referred to as *To'ni* near Big Gulch where Coyote lived in his house, or *to'ni*, comprising a large round hole in the ground (Steward 1933; California Public Utilities Commission Website 2024).

There are also well documented petroglyphs located in the Alabama Hills, well outside the project area, in the large granite boulder fields to the east.



Map 1. Northern Paiute Bands.

Paiute Tribal Boundaries Map (Steward 1933).

Historic Context

The project site lies southwest of Lone Pine in the Alabama Hills, a name that reportedly was given to the area by prospectors sympathetic to the Confederate cause during the Civil War. They chose to honor the C.S.S. Alabama, a Confederate warship, for its role in sinking the Union gunboat USS Hatteras in 1863. The Bureau of Land Management oversees the Alabama Hills, and the non-profit group Friends of the Inyo, are involved in the area's conservation and heritage (Pacific Adventure Club Website 2024). Evidence of historic mining can be found in the Alabama Hills evidenced by adits and storage structures for explosives.

The town of Lone Pine is named after the lonely pine tree that was found at the mouth of Lone Pine Canyon. The town was founded during the 1860s to provide supplies to the local gold and silver mining communities of Kearsarge, Cerro Gordo and Darwin, and later to farmers and ranchers. The pine tree has long since vanished, destroyed in a flood. Mount Whitney was first discovered by a California Geological Survey team in 1864, who named the peak after Josiah Whitney, a Professor at the California Academy of Sciences. Members of the survey team, William Brewer and Clarence King attempted to climb the peak but were unsuccessful. Whitney was first climbed on August 18, 1873, by three Lone Pine locals; Charley Begole, Johnny Lucas, and Al Johnson (City of Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce Website 2024).

Over the years the town of Lone Pine has endured an earthquake the magnitude of the "Big One" in San Francisco in 1906, it has been home to a transient mining population, was home to the construction workers building the LA Aqueduct, and has hosted the crews responsible for many classic feature films. During World War II Japanese Americans were confined in the Manzanar relocation camp (City of Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce Website 2024). The project site lies just south of the Alabama Hills residential subdivision and near the Lone Pine Pheasant Club House.

Tribal Consultation

Tribal Consultation has not been initiated at this time

National and State Register Files

According to the California State Historic Preservation Office (CASHPO) Built Environment Resource Directory (BERD), there were zero (0) National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR), or National Historic Landmarks (NHL) listed properties identified in the project APE-DE or APE-VE.

Historic Map and Aerial Photograph Review

A review of historic topographic quadrangle maps and aerial photographs from the 1970s to 2024 indicates that the subject parcel was developed with the Pheasant Club in the 1980s, although the subject parcel was used for grazing livestock much earlier (NETRonline Website 2024).

Archaeological and Historical Sensitivity of the APE-DE

The precontact sensitivity of the APE-DE is low, since no evidence was found in the expanded survey area, such as lithics, rock rings, or other clues of precontact occupation. This would suggest that precontact use would have been limited and transitory in nature in the project footprint, although the Alabama Hills were particularly important to the Paiute. Consequently, the probability of encountering significant subsurface precontact archaeological deposits within the APE-DE is low.

Pedestrian Survey

A pedestrian survey of the APE-DE was completed by Dana E. Supernowicz, M.A., RPA on September 24, 2024. The field reconnaissance focused on assessing and photographing the general surface conditions found within the project area. The proposed impact area's archaeological potential was evaluated based on several factors, including proximity to recorded sites, creeks, rivers and wetlands, the presence of early historic development, as well as disturbances, such as grading, fill slopes, cutting, and compaction. No evidence of prehistoric or historic sites, features, or artifacts were identified within the project footprint.

Conclusion and Recommendations

In light of the available information, it is my professional opinion that the APE-DE for the proposed project has low sensitivity for the presence of significant subsurface precontact or historical archaeological resources. In the event that a concentration of artifacts or culturally modified soil deposits (including trash pits older than 50 years) should be encountered at any time during ground disturbing activities, all work must stop until a qualified archaeologist views the finds and makes a preliminary evaluation. If warranted, further archaeological work in the discovery area should be performed. Although unlikely, if human remains are encountered, all work must stop in the immediate vicinity of the discovery until the County Coroner and a qualified archaeologist evaluate the remains.

zsA5)References=-

California Public Utilities Commission Website. "Tribal Cultural Resources." www.cpuc.ca.gov. Accessed September 25, 2024.

California State Office of Historic Preservation (CASHPO). Built Environment Resource Database (BERD). Accessed September 2024.

City of Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce Website. "History of the Lone Pine Area." www.lonepinechamber.org. Accessed September 26, 2024.

Cook, Sherburne F. *Colonial Expeditions to the Interior of California: Central Valley, 1800-1820*. University of California Anthropological Records 16(6):239-292. Berkeley. 1960.

Google Earth. www.googleearth.com. Accessed September 2024.

Gudde, Edwin G. *California Place Names*. Berkeley: University of California Press. 1969.

Hoover, Mildred Brooke and Douglas E. Kyle. *Historic Spots in California*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press. 1990.

Kroeber, A.L. *Handbook of the Indians of California*. Washington: Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 78. 1925.

Kuchler, A.W. *Natural Vegetation of California* (Map). In *Terrestrial Vegetation of California*. M.G, Barbour and J. Major eds. John Wiley and Sons, New York. 1997.

Matson, R. G. *The Pollen Evidence for a Recent Arboreal Transgression into Grasslands in Central California*. Davis: University of California, Center for Archaeological Research at Davis, Publication 2. pp. 145-154. 1970.

Merriam, C. Hart. *Studies of California Indians*. The Staff of the Department of Anthropology of the University of California, eds. Berkeley: University of California Press. 1955.

Moratto, Michael J. *California Archaeology*. Orlando, Florida: Academic Press, Inc. 1984.

NETRonline Website. Historic Aerial Photographs. www.historicaerials.com. 1953-2024. Accessed September 2024.

NRCS Website. Web Soil Survey. www.nrcs.usda.gov. Natural Resources Conservation Service. United States Department of Agriculture. Accessed September 2024.

Pacific Adventure Club Website. "Geology and History of the Alabama Hills." www.pacificadventureclub.com. Accessed September 25, 2024.

Steward, Julian H. *Ethnography of the Owens Valley Paiute*. University of California Press, Berkeley, California. 1933.

United States Department of the Interior. *Archaeology and Historic Preservation: Secretary of the Interiors Standards and Guidelines. Federal Register Part IV, 48(2):44716-44742*. Annotated version showing later technical and officially adopted revisions available from the National Park Service's preservation laws, regulations, and standards webpage at http://cr.nps.gov/local-law/arch_stnds_0.htm. 1983.

United States Geological Service (USGS). *Lone Pine, California 7.5' Topographic Quadrangle Map*. USGS, Washington, D.C. 2021.

Attachment A: Figures

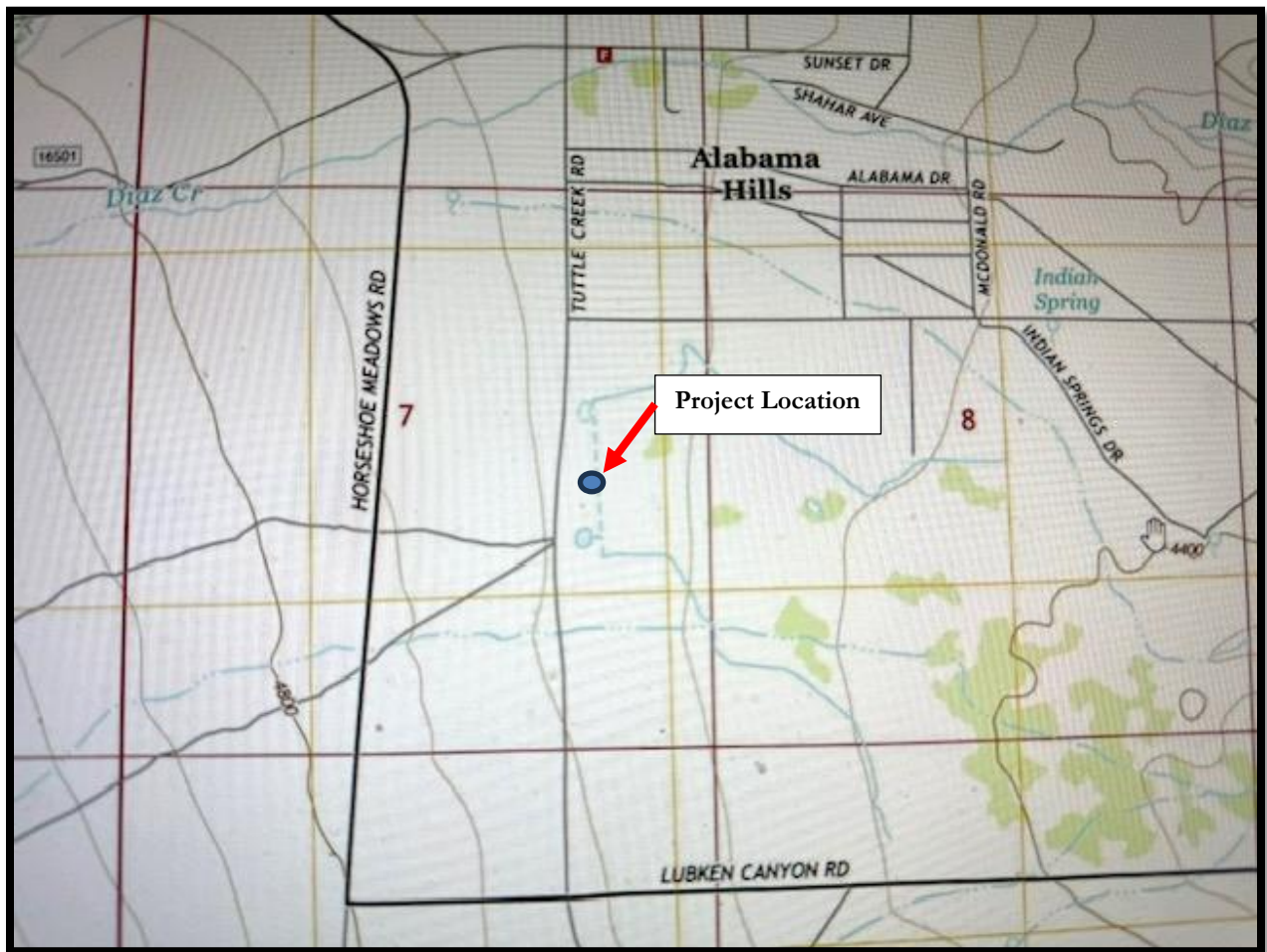
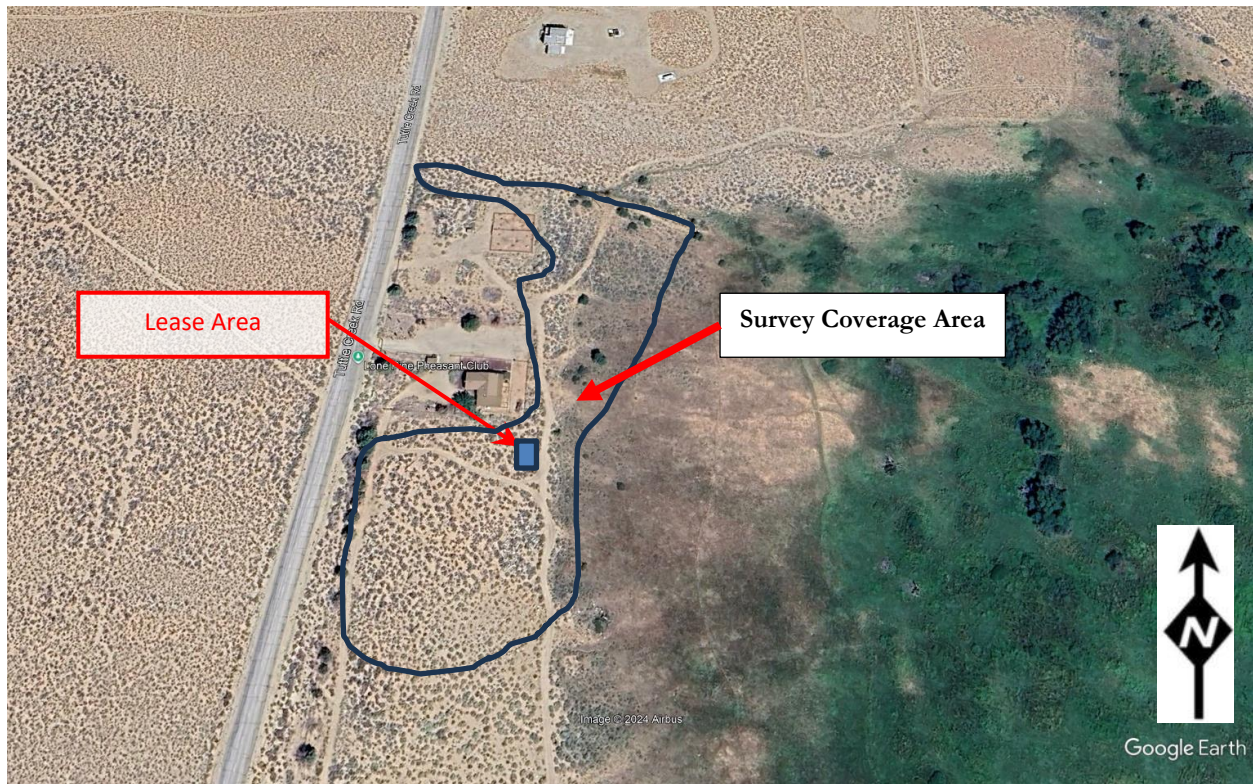






Figure 1: Project Location Map
(USGS 7.5' Lone Pine, California 2015).



**Figure 2: Project Location Aerial Map
(Google Earth 2024).**

Attachment B: Photograph Record

	<p>1. View looking north from the project site.</p>
	<p>2. View looking south from the project site.</p>



 A wide-angle photograph of a desert landscape. The foreground is filled with low-lying, dry, yellowish-brown shrubs and grasses on sandy soil. In the middle ground, there are some scattered trees and a small body of water or wetland area. The background features a range of mountains under a clear, bright blue sky.	<p>3. View looking east from the project site.</p>
 A photograph of a desert landscape. The foreground is filled with low-lying, dry, yellowish-brown shrubs and grasses on sandy soil. In the middle ground, there are some scattered trees and a small body of water or wetland area. The background features a range of mountains under a clear, bright blue sky.	<p>4. View looking west from the project site.</p>



5. View looking north towards the project site.



6. View looking south towards the project site.

	<p>7. View looking east towards the project site.</p>
	<p>8. View looking west towards the project site.</p>



9. Overview looking south at the project site and existing dirt access road on the left.



10. View looking southeast across the project site, access road, and Owens Valley in the distance.



11. View looking north from south of the project site along the access road with the Pheasant Club House in the distance.



12. View looking north further to the south towards the project site in the distance, and beyond that the Pheasant Club House.



13. View looking south along the access road east of the project site.



14. View looking north at the access road and the Alabama Hills residential subdivision in the distance.



15. View looking southwest along the proposed utility route back towards the project site in the distance.



16. View looking north at the utility lines near the termination of the proposed telco or utility route from the project site.



17. View looking east at the utility route from the west.



18. Overview looking west at the proposed telco or utility route towards Tuttle Creek Road.



19. View looking northwest towards the utility route and a contemporary residential house to the north.



20. View looking northwest towards the termination of the telco or utility route along Tuttle Creek Road.



21. View looking southwest back towards the project site in the far distance from the utility route.



22. View looking north at the property line and nearby contemporary residence.



23. View looking east down the utility line east of Tuttle Creek Road.



24. View looking south towards the project site beyond the Pheasant Club House in the distance.



25. View of the entry gate and access road south of the project site along Tuttle Creek Road.

Attachment C: Project Site Plans