

Corridor 264-265

Angeles National Forest Northwest

Introduction

Corridor 264-265 (Figures 1 and 2) extends northeast from near Saugus toward Elizabeth Lake, CA. The federally designated portions of this corridor are entirely on National Forest System land, with a 1,000-ft width over its entire length. Corridor 264-265 can accommodate electrical transmission projects only. The corridor spans 15-miles, with 12.7 miles of designated USFS-administered lands. The corridor's designated area is 1,532 acres or 2.4 square miles. This corridor is entirely in Los Angeles County, California, and under the jurisdiction of the Angeles National Forest. This corridor is entirely in Region 1.

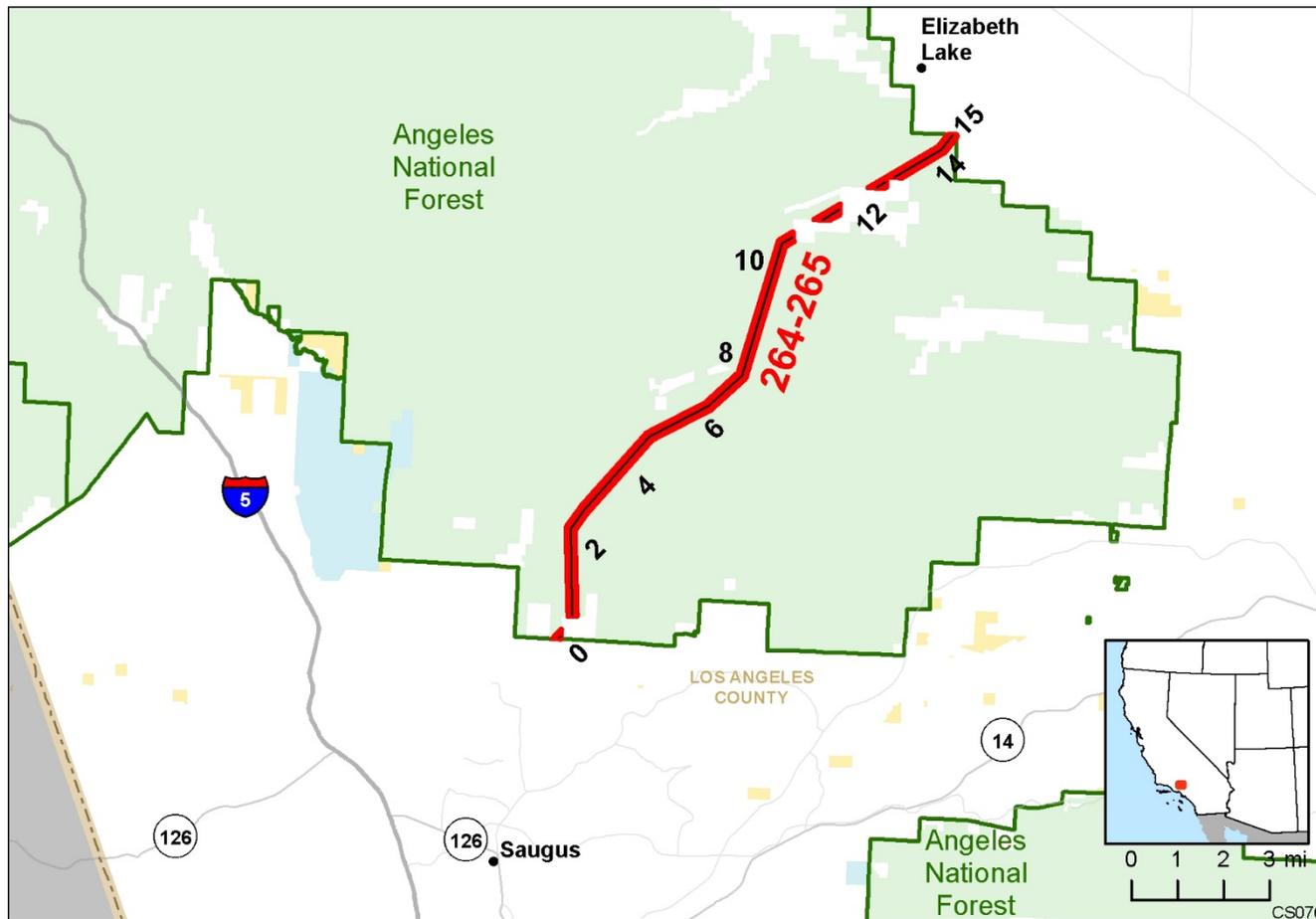
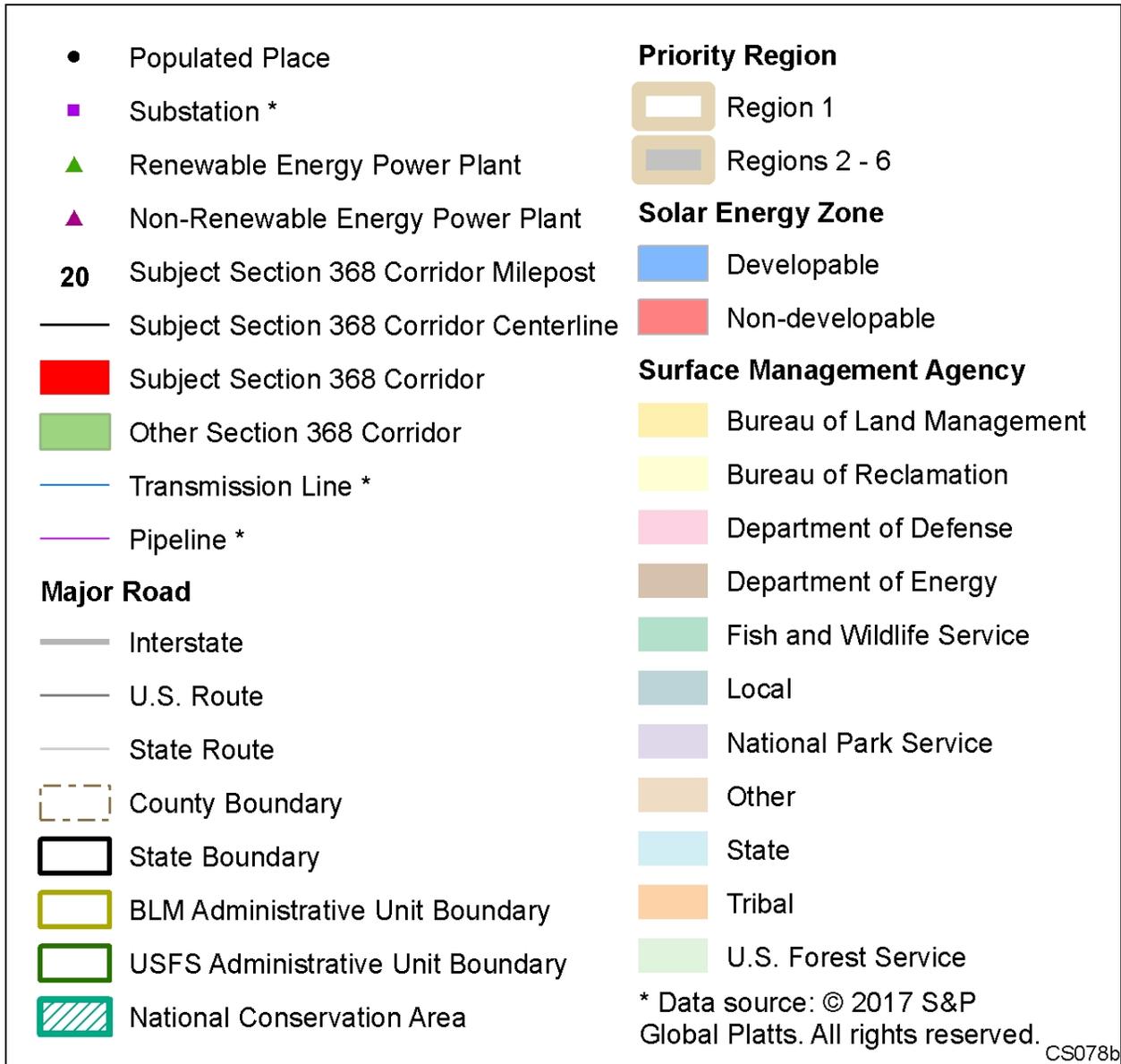


Figure 1. Corridor 264-265



Key

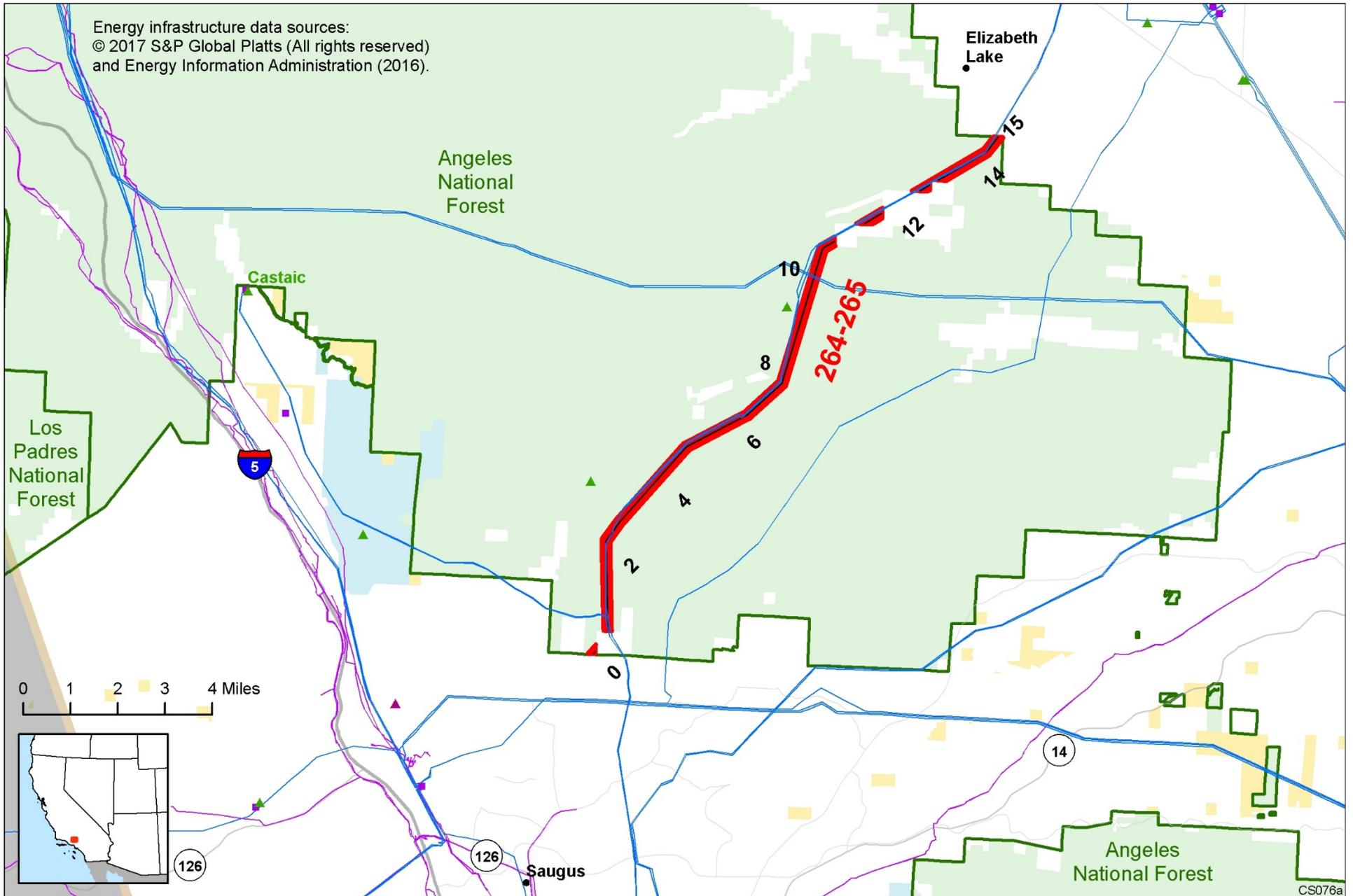


Figure 2. Corridor 264-265, Including Existing Energy Infrastructure

Corridor Rationale

During scoping for the WWEC PEIS, Western Interconnection Transmission Paths and the WUG suggested routes generally following this corridor. The corridor was designated as a Section 368 energy corridor consistent with the previously designated energy corridor in the Angeles National Forest Land Management Plan to support existing and future electricity infrastructure.

Existing Infrastructure: The corridor runs parallel to (and within approximately 1 mile of) San Francisquito Canyon Road for its entire extent. Existing transmission lines are within the corridor and include three LADWP transmission lines (115 kV, 230 kV). An additional 230-kV double-circuit line was recently constructed. Two LADWP hydroelectric power plants, with substations, are within 1 mile of the corridor centerline. There are two 550-kV SEC lines within the corridor, and a substation is located 5 miles to the northeast.

Potential Future Development: According to the LADWP, to meet the required renewable generation, the department has proposed to upgrade the existing 230-kV line to match the new double-circuit capacity. This proposal, if approved by management, will be in service by 2021-2022. SCE indicated there are 7,418 MW of CAISO-queued generation and 496 MW of SCE-queued generation near (or which could use) the corridor. The corridor is located within a RETI 2.0 TAFE that provides opportunity for the corridor to accommodate transmission tied to renewable energy development.

Corridor of Concern Status

Corridor 264-265 is a corridor of concern. Concerns regarding critical habitat, an NCA, CPW, and a USFS-Inventoried Roadless Area were identified in the Settlement Agreement. These issues are highlighted in yellow in the Corridor Analysis table below.

Corridor Abstract Update

New data have been added to the Section 368 Energy Corridor Mapping Tool since the release of the draft abstracts in September 2016. A GIS view identifying high-, medium-, and low-conflict areas consistent with the definition of screening criteria described in 43 CFR 2804.35(a)-(c) has also been added to the mapping tool. A complete description of the mapping tool; a description of the high-, medium-, and low-conflict areas; and a list of the GIS data sources are included in the report for the Region 1 Regional Review .

Additions to the corridor analysis table, based on input from stakeholders and additional Agency analysis, include special status species and military and civilian aviation.

Revisions, deletions, or additions to Section 368 energy corridors would be made only during the land use planning process through a plan amendment for an individual project or a plan revision. However, the Settlement Agreement sets forth a systematic process for the Agencies to review Section 369 energy corridors and provide recommendations for revisions, deletions, or additions to the corridors. There were stakeholder recommendations in the 2014 RFI to delete or replace the corridor segment to avoid critical habitat, an NCA, citizens proposed wilderness, and an USFS-Inventoried Roadless Area. There were no suggestions for corridor revisions, deletions, or additions in response to the release of the draft abstracts. Based on Agency analysis of these issues, revisions, deletions, or additions are not recommended for Corridor 264-265.

Corridor Analysis

The corridor analysis table below identifies the concerns affecting Corridor 264-265, the location of the concerns within the corridor, and the results of the analysis of the concerns by the Agencies. Concerns are checked if they are known to apply to the corridor.

Energy Planning Opportunities

- Appropriate and acceptable uses
- WWEC purpose (e.g., renewable energy)
- Transmission and pipeline capacity opportunity

Energy Planning Concerns

- Physical barrier
- Jurisdictional concern
- Corridor alignment and spacing
- Transmission and pipeline capacity concern

Land Management Responsibilities and Environmental Concerns

- Acoustics
- Air quality
- Climate change
- Cultural resources
- Ecological resources
- Environmental justice
- Hydrological resources
- Lands and realty
- Lands with wilderness characteristics

Livestock grazing

- Paleontology
- Public access and recreation
- Socioeconomics
- Soils/erosion
- Specially designated areas
- Tribal concerns
- Visual resources
- Wild horses and burros

Interagency Operating Procedures

REGION 1 – CORRIDOR 264-265 – ANALYSIS TABLE							
ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Concern/ Opportunity	Corridor Location (by Milepost [MP])	Source: Context	Agency Review and Analysis
ENERGY PLANNING CONCERNS							
<i>Corridor Alignment and Spacing</i>							
264-265 .001	USFS	Angeles National Forest	Los Angeles, CA	Bonneville Power Administration 1,000-kV transmission line	MP 0.6 to MP 8.6, MP 11.6 to MP 15.0	GIS Analysis.	There is generally space for additional lines since the corridor is 1,000 feet wide.
264-265 .002	USFS	Angeles National Forest	Los Angeles, CA	SCE 69-kV transmission line	MP 0.0 to MP 0.1	GIS Analysis.	There is generally space for additional lines since the corridor is 1,000 feet wide.
264-265 .003	USFS	Angeles National Forest	Los Angeles, CA	SCE 500-kV transmission line	MP 9.9	GIS Analysis.	There is generally space for additional lines since the corridor is 1,000 feet wide.
264-265 .004	USFS	Angeles National Forest	Los Angeles, CA	LADWP 115- and 230-kV transmission lines	MP 0.6 to MP 8.4, MP 10.5 to MP 15.0	GIS Analysis.	There is generally space for additional lines since the corridor is 1,000 feet wide.

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LAND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS							
Ecology: Special Status Animal Species							
264-265 .005	USFS	Angeles National Forest	Los Angeles, CA	California Red-legged Frog critical habitat	MP 1.7 to MP 5.9	Settlement Agreement: Delete or replace this segment. GIS Analysis: California Red-legged Frog critical habitat is adjacent to the corridor.	Critical habitat for the California Red-legged Frog is avoided by the current alignment that contains existing infrastructure. Impacts on habitat and habitat connectivity could be avoided, minimized, or mitigated through activities identified and implemented in consultation with the USFWS under ESA Section 7. Analysis would be completed through the NEPA process case by case with a full range of alternatives.
264-265 .006	USFS	Angeles National Forest	Los Angeles, CA	Unarmored Threespine Stickleback	MP 9.2 to MP 13.1 and paralleling nearby MP 13.1 to MP 14.6	USFS staff review: the Unarmored Threespine Stickleback is present in San Francisquito Creek, as of 2014 when the RO approved an emergency translocation of the species.	Impacts on special status species could be avoided, minimized, or mitigated through activities identified and implemented in consultation with the USFWS under ESA Section 7. Analysis would be completed through the NEPA process case by case with a full range of alternatives.
Hydrology: Surface Water							
264-265 .007	USFS	Angeles National Forest	Los Angeles, CA	Los Angeles Aqueduct	Entire corridor	GIS Analysis: Los Angeles Aqueduct is adjacent to the corridor.	The aqueduct is not within the corridor. Impacts would be analyzed and mitigated as part of the project-specific environmental review required under NEPA and other Federal laws.
Lands and Realty: Military and Civilian Aviation							
264-265 .008	USFS	Angeles National Forest	Los Angeles, CA	Military Training Route – Visual Route	MP 9.4 to MP 14.8	GIS Analysis.	Impacts would be analyzed and mitigated as part of the project-specific environmental review required under NEPA and other Federal laws. Adherence to IOP 1 under Project Planning in the WWEC PEIS RODs regarding coordination with DoD would be required.

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Specially Designated Areas							
264-265 .009	USFS	Angeles National Forest	Los Angeles, CA	California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA)	MP 15.0	Settlement Agreement/ Delete or replace this segment. GIS Analysis: CDCA is adjacent to the northern end of the corridor.	The corridor is not located in the CDCA. Impacts would be analyzed and mitigated as part of the project-specific environmental review required under NEPA and other Federal laws.
264-265 .010	USFS	Angeles National Forest	Los Angeles, CA	Red Mountain Inventoried Roadless Area	MP 5.2 to MP 9.2	Settlement Agreement: Delete or replace this segment.	The Red Mountain Roadless Area is adjacent to the corridor and would not affect development and management inside of the corridor. Impacts would be analyzed as part of the project-specific environmental review required under NEPA and other Federal laws.
264-265 .011	USFS	Angeles National Forest	Los Angeles, CA	CPW	unspecified	Settlement Agreement: Delete or replace this segment.	Prior to designating new corridors, conducting surface disturbing activities in areas of designated corridors, or making future corridor revisions, the USFS would conduct a site-specific evaluation for wilderness characteristics.
264-265 .012	USFS	Angeles National Forest	Los Angeles, CA	Pacific Crest NST	MP 13.7 to MP 14.2	GIS Analysis. Comment on corridor abstract: the Pacific Crest NST travels 0.6 mi through the corridor. The trail crosses the San Francisquito Canyon Road. The corridor does not use that crossing but also impacts the trail 0.3 mile away, doubling the disturbance to the hiker in a relatively short time.	Impacts on the Pacific Crest NST by future development proposals would be analyzed and mitigated case by case during the project-specific environmental reviews required under NEPA and other Federal laws. There are existing lines within the corridor, so a new route would not reduce the impact.
Other Issues							
264-265 .new1						Input was provided clarifying existing capacity and potential for new capacity.	The input provided by stakeholders regarding existing capacity and potential for future capacity has been added to the

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							corridor abstracts and has been considered in the Agencies’ analysis.

Abbreviations: ACEC = Area of Critical Environmental Concern; BLM = Bureau of Land Management; CAISO = California Independent System Operator; CDCA = California Desert Conservation Area; DoD = U.S. Department of Defense; FO = Field Office; GIS = geographic information system; LADWP = Los Angeles Department of Water and Power; MP = milepost; NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act; NST = National Scenic Trail; PEIS = Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement; RFI = Request for Information; SCE = Southern California Edison Co.; USFS = Forest Service; USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; WECC = Western Electricity Coordinating Council; WUG = Western Utility Group; WWEC = West-wide Energy Corridor.