

**DOCKET****09-AFC-9**DATE JAN 19 2010RECD. JAN 20 2010

June 14, 2010

California Energy Commission  
Docket Unit  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Subject: **LETTER FROM WILLIAM GRAHAM, AECOM, TO SUSAN SANDERS,  
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION: SURVEY RESULTS AND IMPACT  
CALCULATIONS FOR BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES FOR THE COLORADO  
RIVER SUBSTATION  
DOCKET NO. (09-AFC-6)**

Enclosed for filing with the California Energy Commission is a letter from William Graham, AECOM to Susan Sanders, California Energy Commission providing Survey Results and Impact Calculations for Biological Resources for the Colorado River Substation for the Blythe Solar Power Project (09-AFC-6).

Sincerely,



Arrie Bachrach



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619.233.1454 tel  
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June 14, 2010

Ms. Susan Sanders  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Subject: Blythe Solar Power Project (09-AFC-6) – Survey Results and Impact Calculations for Biological Resources for the Colorado River Substation**

Dear Ms. Sanders:

On behalf of Palo Verde Solar I, LLC, AECOM is submitting survey results for biological surveys conducted in spring 2009, fall 2009 and spring 2010 for desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*; DT), rare plants, jurisdictional waters, and incidental wildlife occurrences for the Colorado River Substation. The data presented in the attached figures has already been submitted to the CEC in the Blythe Biological Resources Technical Report (August 2009), responses to CEC data requests submitted in December and January 2010, and the Preliminary Spring 2010 Survey Results submitted on May 14, 2010. AECOM received a boundary for the proposed Colorado River Substation from Southern California Edison (SCE) and overlaid the boundary on existing data as depicted in the attached figures. The boundary provided by SCE is approximately 86.8 acres.

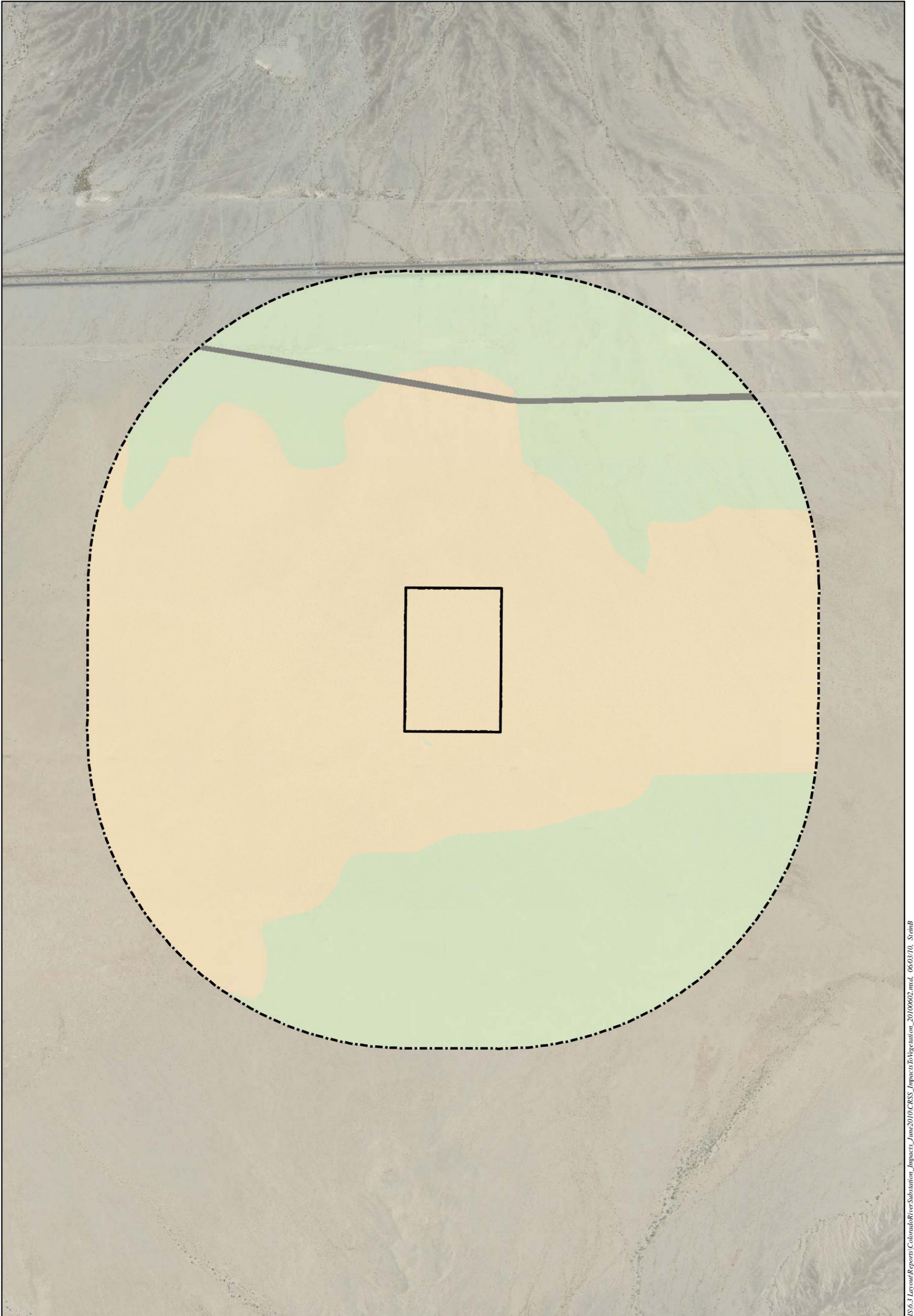
Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mr. William Graham  
Principal  
AECOM

Attachments: Figure 1. Colorado River Substation Vegetation Communities  
Figure 2. Colorado River Substation Botany Rare Plants  
Figure 3. Colorado River Substation Western Burrowing Owl Observations  
Figure 4. Colorado River Substation Preliminary Results Desert Tortoise  
Figure 5. Colorado River Substation Mojave Fringe-Toed Lizard Observations  
Figure 6. Colorado River Substation Incidental Wildlife Observations  
CD. Metadata and Shapefiles

cc: Alice Harron, Solar Millennium  
Elizabeth Ingram, Solar Millennium  
Scott Galati, Solar Millennium Counsel  
Mark Luttrell, AECOM



**Legend**

Proposed CRSS Location  
 1-mile Buffer Area

**Vegetation Communities**

**Upland**

- Sonoran Creosote Bush Scrub (1,232.3 acres)
- Stabilized and Partially Stabilized Desert Dunes (1,805.3 acres)

**Other**

- Disturbed Habitat (21.8 acres)

0 1,500 3,000 Feet

**Colorado River Substation**

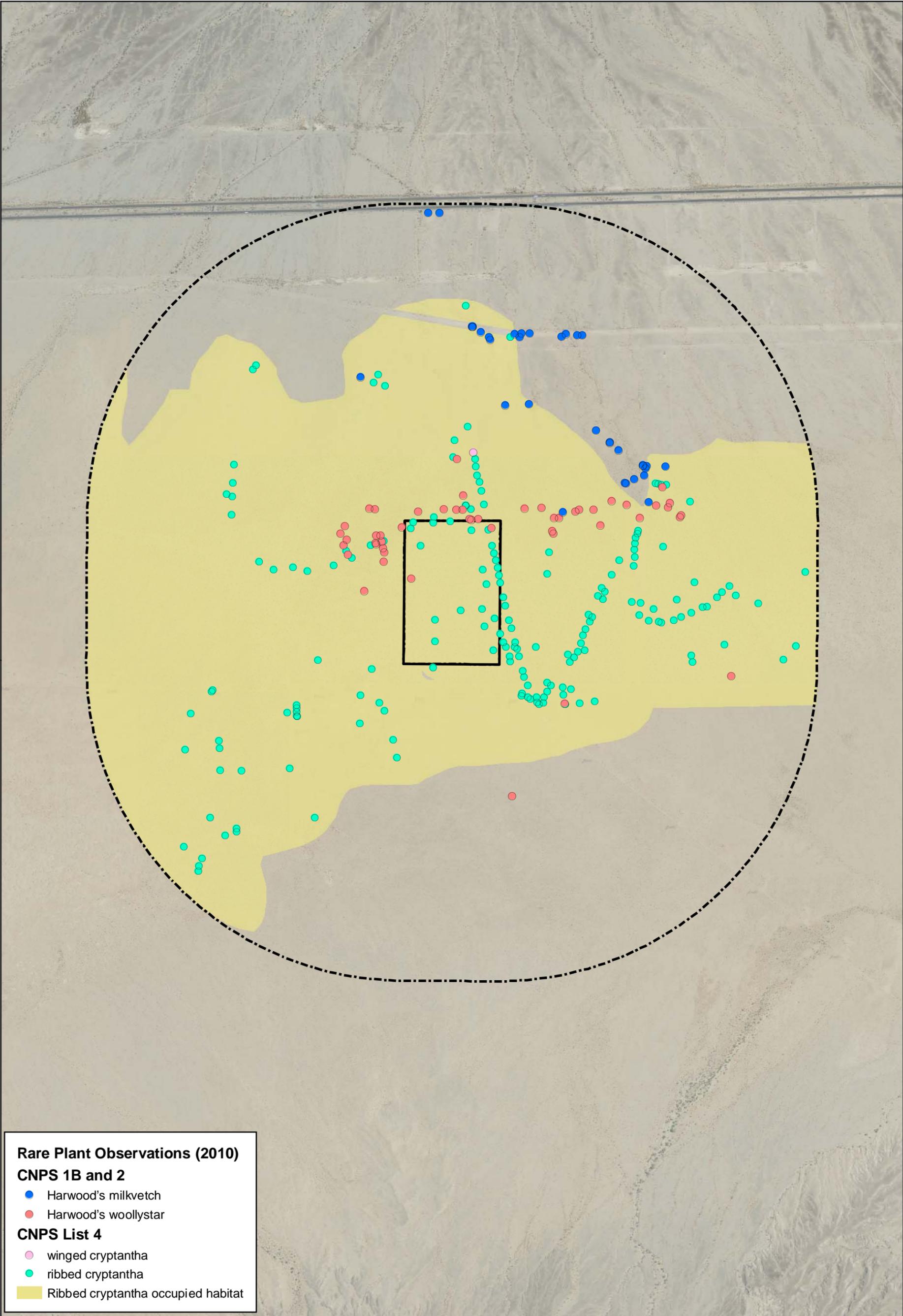
**Figure 1 Vegetation Communities**

Source: NAIP 2009; AECOM 2010

1 inch = 1,500 feet

**AECOM**

Date: June 2010



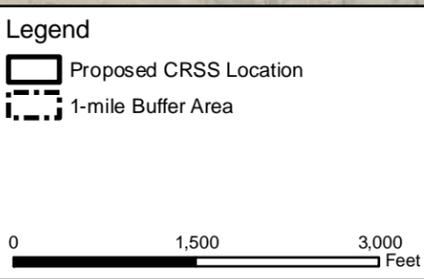
**Rare Plant Observations (2010)**

**CNPS 1B and 2**

- Harwood's milkvetch
- Harwood's woollystar

**CNPS List 4**

- winged cryptantha
- ribbed cryptantha
- Ribbed cryptantha occupied habitat



**Colorado River Substation**

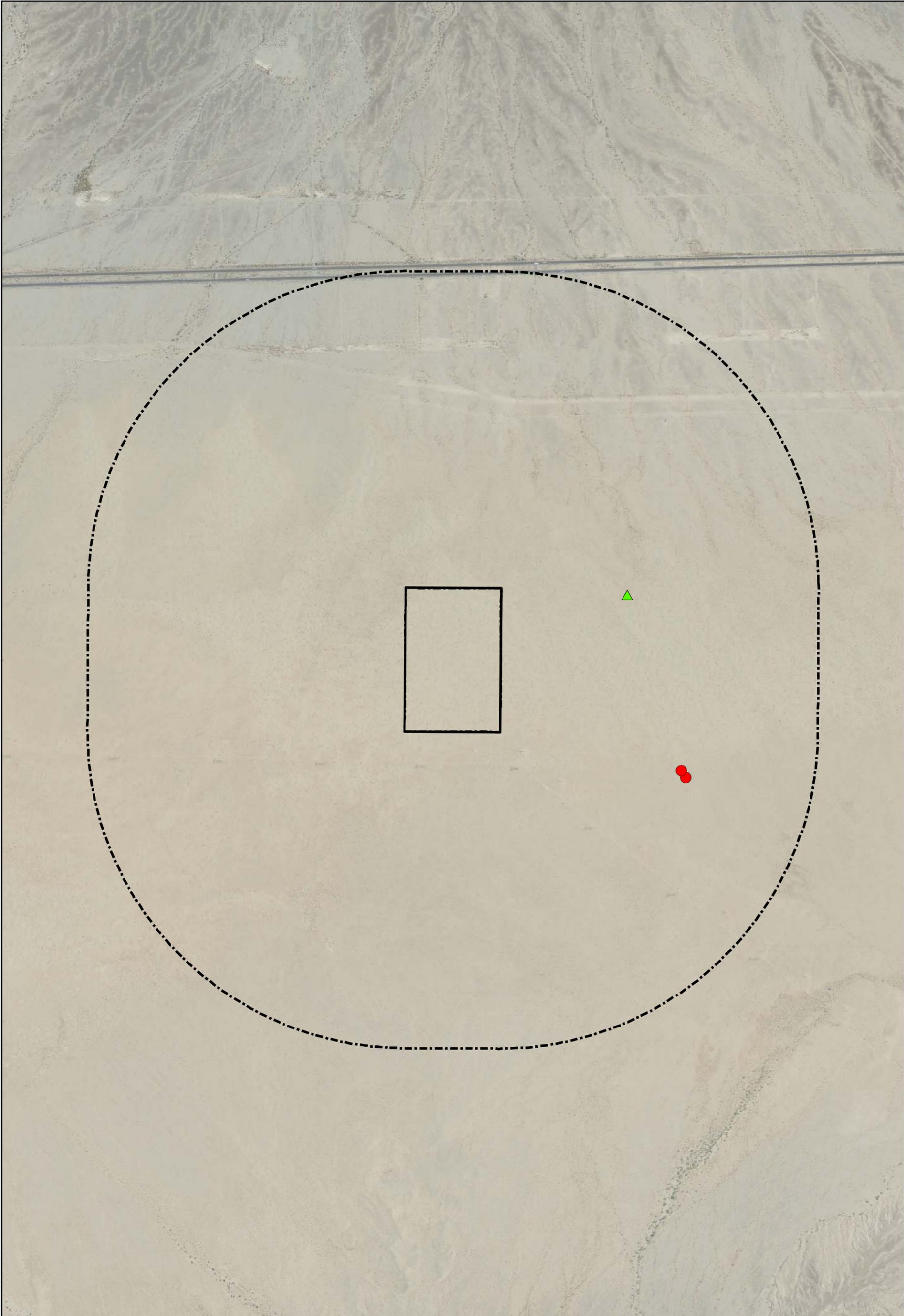
**Figure 2 Botany Rare Plants**

Source: NAIP 2009; AECOM 2010

1 inch = 1,500 feet

**AECOM**

Date: May 2010



**Legend**

- Proposed CRSS Location
- 1-mile Buffer Area
- Western Burrowing Owl Observations 2010**
- ▲ Burrow with Sign
- Observations 2009**
- Western Burrowing Owl with Active Burrow

0 1,500 3,000 Feet

**Colorado River Substation**

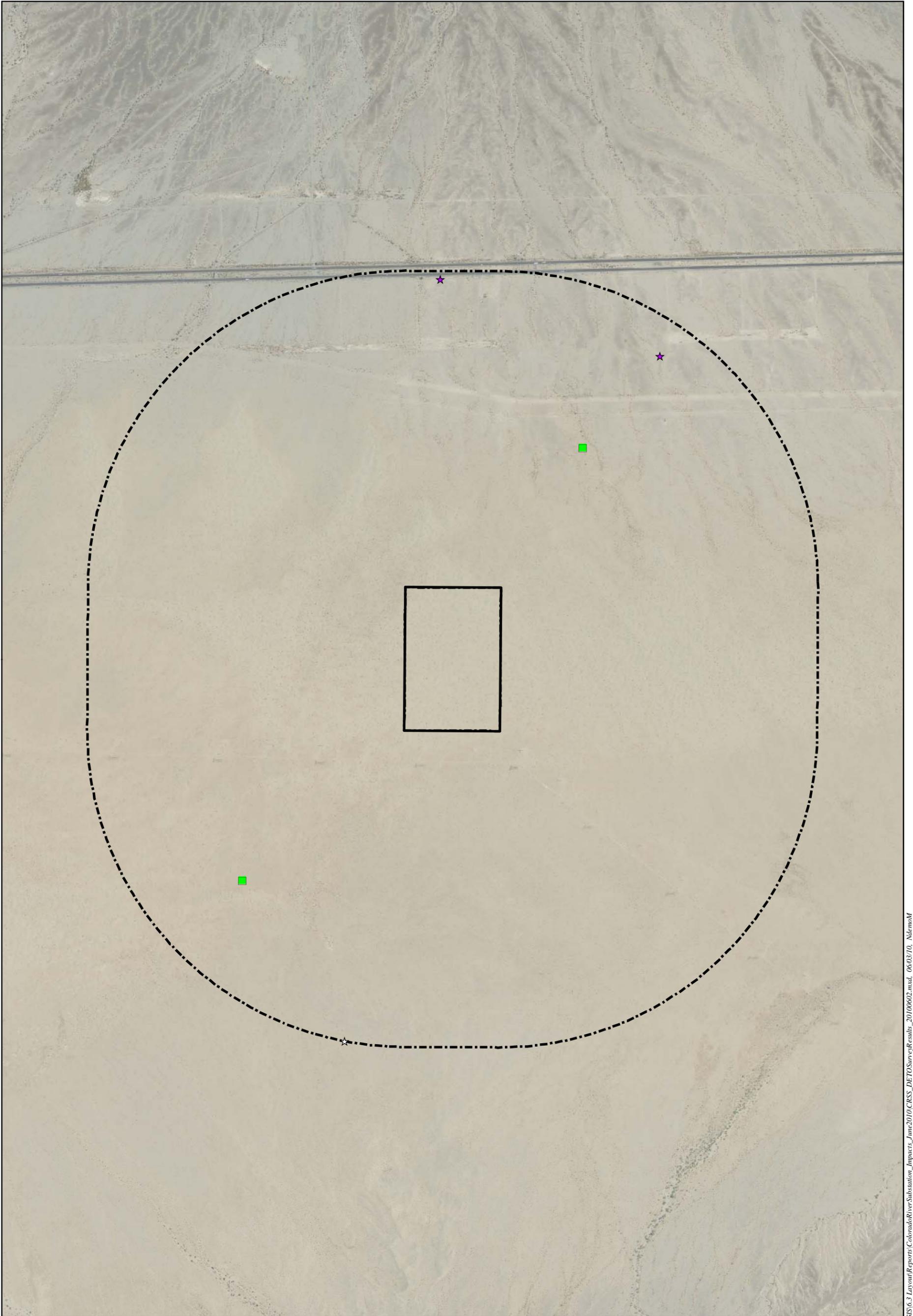
**Figure 3**  
**Western Burrowing Owl Observations**

Source: NAIP 2009; AECOM 2010

1 inch = 1,500 feet

**AECOM**

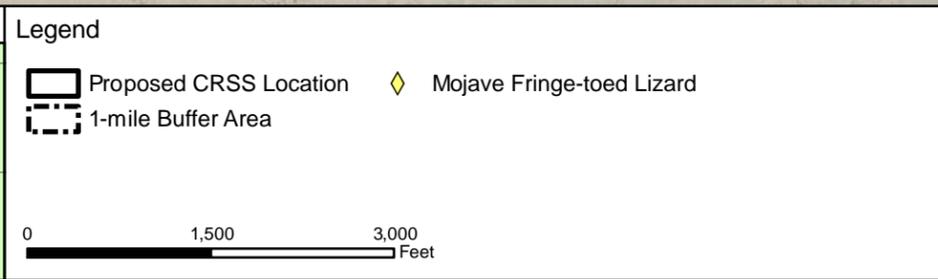
Date: June 2010



<b>Legend</b>		<b>DT Observations</b>	
	Proposed CRSS Location		Tortoise Burrow - Class 4
	1-mile Buffer Area		Tortoise Bone Fragment (Class 5) - Not Mineralized
			Tortoise Bone Fragment (Class 5) - Mineralized
			

**Blythe Solar  
Power Project**  
  
**Figure 4  
Preliminary Results  
Desert Tortoise**  
Source: NAIP 2009; AECOM 2010

1 inch = 1,500 feet	
<b>AECOM</b>	
Date: June 2010	



**Blythe Solar Power Project**

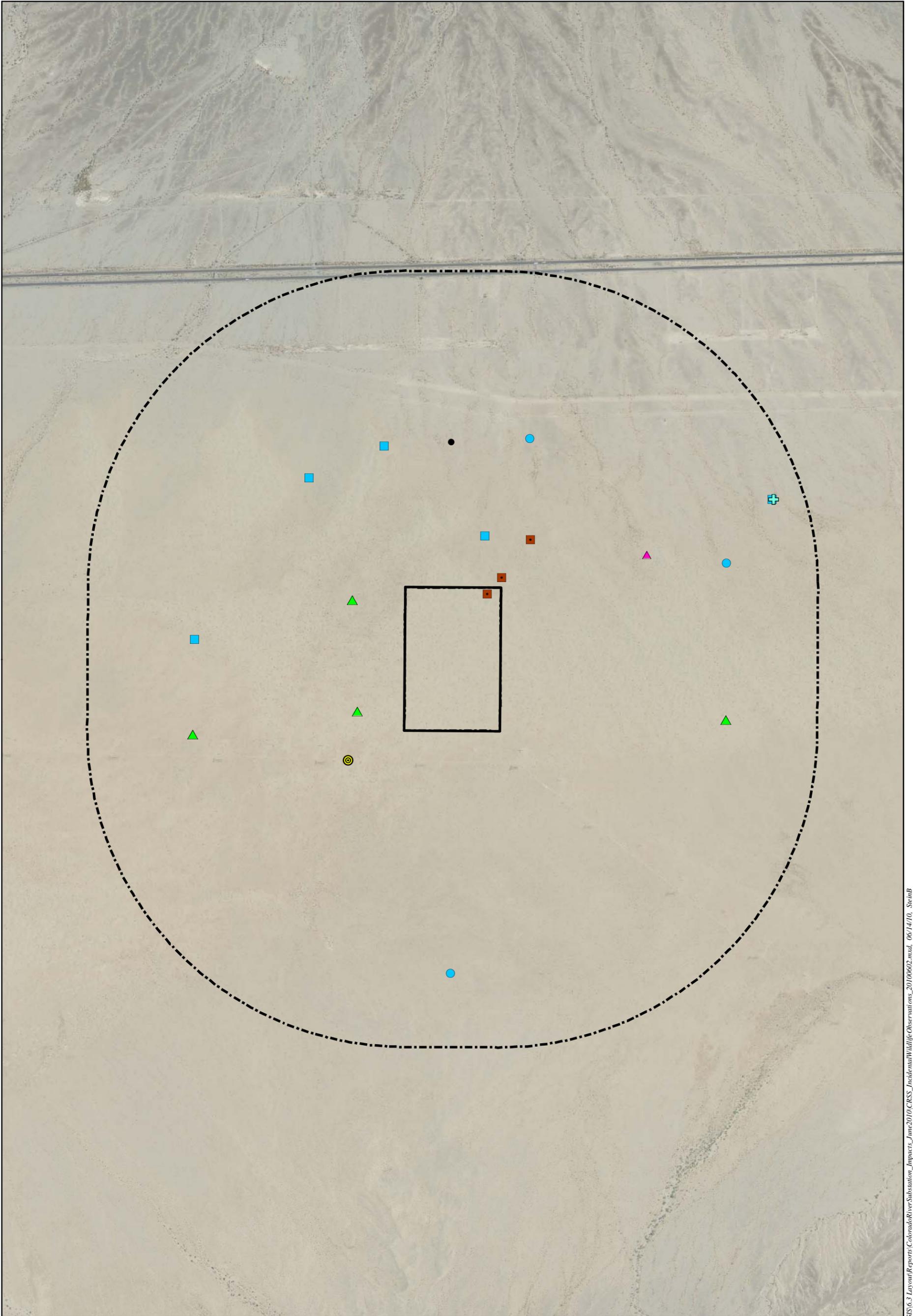
**Figure 5**  
**Mojave Fringe-Toed Lizard Observations**

Source: NAIP 2009; AECOM 2010

1 inch = 1,500 feet

**AECOM**

Date: June 2010



<b>Legend</b>		● Kit Fox Burrow
▭ Proposed CRSS Location	● Kit Fox Complex	▲ Loggerhead Shrike
⊘ 1-mile Buffer Area	⊕ Northern Harrier	■ Swainson's Hawk
<b>Special Status Wildlife</b>		
● American Badger Predation Burrow	● Cooper's Hawk	▲ Ferruginous Hawk

0 1,500 3,000 Feet

**Blythe Solar Power Project**

**Figure 6  
Incidental Wildlife Observations**

Source: NAIP 2009; AECOM 2010

1 inch = 1,500 feet

**AECOM**

Date: June 2010



**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

***In the Matter of:***  
**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION**  
**for the *BLYTHE SOLAR POWER PROJECT***

**Docket No. 09-AFC-6**  
**PROOF OF SERVICE**  
*(Revised 1/26/2010)*

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**DECLARATION OF SERVICE**

I, Carl Lindner, declare that on, June 14, 2010, I served and filed copies of the attached Blythe Solar Power Project Materials:

Survey Results and Impact Calculations for Biological Resources for the Colorado River Substation.

The original document, filed with the Docket Unit, is accompanied by a copy of the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at:

[\[http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/solar\\_millennium\\_blythe\]](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/solar_millennium_blythe).

The document has been sent to the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the Commission's Docket Unit, in the following manner:

**(Check all that Apply)**

**For service to all other parties:**

\_\_\_\_\_ sent electronically to all email addresses on the Proof of Service list;

\_\_\_X\_\_\_ by personal delivery or by overnight delivery service or depositing in the United States mail at Camarillo, California with postage or fees thereon fully prepaid and addressed as provided on the Proof of Service list above to those addresses **NOT** marked "email preferred."

**AND**

**For filing with the Energy Commission:**

\_\_\_X\_\_\_ sending an original paper copy and one electronic copy, mailed and emailed respectively, to the address below (preferred method);

**OR**

\_\_\_\_\_ depositing in the mail an original and 12 paper copies, along with 13 CDs, as follows:

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

Attn: Docket No. 09-AFC-6

1516 Ninth Street, MS-4

Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

[docket@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:docket@energy.state.ca.us)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

  
\_\_\_\_\_