

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
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California Energy Commission
DOCKETED
11-AFC-04
 TN # 69001
 JAN 03 2013



**Siting, Transmission
 and Environmental
 Protection Division**

FILE: 11-AFC-04

PROJECT TITLE: Rio Mesa SEGF **Docket:**

TECHNICAL AREA(S): Biological Resources

Telephone **Meeting Location:**

NAME: Scott White, Aspen **DATE:** 11/12/12 **TIME:** 1:00 p.m.

WITH: Skip Moss (Wildlands, Inc.)

SUBJECT: Feasibility of Acquiring Compensation Lands

COMMENTS:

Mr. Moss described a preliminary and informal review of microphyll woodland habitat (also called desert dry wash woodland) in private ownership within the BLM’s Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert (NECO) planning area. The review was based largely on aerial photography interpretation of vegetation. Based on his experience in acquiring compensation lands as mitigation for habitat impacts, Mr. Moss believes that acquisition of roughly 2,400 acres of microphyll woodland habitat as mitigation for the proposed Rio Mesa project would likely be feasible, though it would be challenging.

We discussed some of the complexities in acquiring compensation lands, such as locating and negotiating with land owners, the distribution pattern of microphyll woodland on the landscape, and the need to ground-truth interpretations made from aerial images.

We also discussed the scope and limitations of his review, emphasizing that it was informal, intended only as a rough preliminary evaluation, and that it should not be considered conclusive or definitive. Mr. Moss did not contact landowners to evaluate willingness or interest in selling lands, and did not attempt to map habitat extent on any parcels.

cc:	Date: 1/2/13	Signed:
		Name Scott White