

April 18, 2023

Joanne Snarski
Energy Facility Siting Specialist
Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
PO Box 43172
Olympia, WA 98504 -3172

Re: Addendum to Application for Site Certification, Carriger Solar, LLC Project

Dear Ms. Snarski,

Cypress Creek Renewables, LLC, (CCR) is submitting the enclosed Visual Impact Assessment for the Carriger Solar, LLC Project (Project), located approximately two miles west of the City of Goldendale in unincorporated Klickitat County, Washington. This assessment is intended to be included as an addendum to the Application for Site Certification (ASC) submitted on February 10, 2023 to the Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC).

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact me at: Lauren Altick at lauren.altick@ccrenew.com.

Sincerely,



Lauren Altick
Project Developer

Cc:

Tai Wallace (CCR Senior Development Director)
Julie Alpert (CCR Senior Environmental Manager – Western Region)
Linda Atkins (Davis Wright Tremaine LLP)
Leslie McClain (Tetra Tech)
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Carriger Solar, LLC Project Visual Impact Assessment

Prepared for:



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Prepared by:



April 18, 2023

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AC	Alternating current
Applicant	Carriger Solar, LLC
ASC	Application for Site Certification
Assessment	Visual Impact Assessment
BESS	battery energy storage system
BLM	U.S. Bureau of Land Management
BPA	Bonneville Power Administration
DC	Direct current
EFSEC	Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council
EOZ	Energy Overlay Zone
GPS	Global Positioning System
KCC	Klickitat County Code
KCCP	Klickitat County Comprehensive Plan
KOP	Key Observation Point
kV	kilovolt
MPE	Maximum Project Extent
MW	megawatt
O&M	operations and maintenance
PPA	Power Purchase Agreement
Project	Carriger Solar, LLC Project
PV	photovoltaic
ROW	Right-of-way
SCA	Site Certification Agreement
SEPA	State Environmental Policy Act
SR	State Route
Tetra Tech	Tetra Tech, Inc.
WAC	Washington State Administrative Code
WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
ZVI	Zone of Visual Influence

1.0 Overview

The Carriger Solar, LLC Project (Project) proposed by Carriger Solar, LLC (Applicant), a wholly owned, indirect subsidiary of Cypress Creek Renewables, LLC, is a proposed solar Photovoltaic (PV) electric generating facility that includes 160 megawatts (MW) of solar energy and 63 MW of battery energy storage on private lands in Klickitat County, Washington. The Project components include a solar array comprised of single axis tracking PV modules, pile driven racking equipment, cabling, power inverters and transformers mounted on concrete pads, and an electrical collection system of overhead and underground cables including a medium voltage collection line to be located within a portion of existing Klickitat County right-of-way (ROW) along Knight Road that electrically connects the southern array areas and parcels with the northern array areas and parcels. Other Project components include a battery energy storage system (BESS), a Project substation, interconnection equipment, operations and maintenance (O&M) building, and employee parking, laydown area, access roads, and perimeter fencing. Fencing will be installed around the perimeter of the solar arrays, the Project substation, and BESS. The Project will interconnect to the Northwest transmission grid via Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)'s existing Knight Substation located adjacent to the Project substation.

Tetra Tech, Inc. was retained by the Applicant to perform a Visual Impact Assessment (Assessment) for the Project. The purpose of preparing this Assessment for the Project is to provide information to meet the State of Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) Application for Site Certification (ASC) and State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Environmental Checklist requirements for aesthetics (visual) under Washington Administrative Code 197-11-960.

1.1 Location

The Project is generally located north of State Route (SR)-142 and along Knight Road, Fairgrounds Road West, Mesecher Road West, Fish Hatchery Road, Butts Road, and Pine Forest Road approximately two miles west/northwest of the City of Goldendale in Klickitat County, Washington (Figure 1).

The following terms are used to describe areas associated with Project development: Project Site Control Boundary, Project Study Area, and Maximum Project Extent. Each of these terms is defined below.

- **Project Site Control Boundary:** Contains 2,108 acres and is comprised of two non-contiguous areas across 25 parcels of private land that are under purchase or lease option for project site control. The Project Site Control Boundary is shown in Figure 1.
- **Project Study Area:** This includes an approximately 2,011-acre area that includes the Maximum Project Extent (1,326 acres, defined below), a portion of the Klickitat County Knight Road ROW (approximately 9 acres), and a portion of the BPA transmission line ROW (approximately 3 acres). The Project Study Area is shown in Figure 1.

- **Maximum Project Extent (MPE):** This area is a subset of the Project Study Area defined above and includes the approximately 1,326-acre area that contains the maximum Project footprint as shown in Figure 2. The MPE is the proposed permitted area provided in the ASC submitted to EFSEC and includes the 30-foot corridor associated with the Project collector line in the Knight Road ROW, the 30-foot corridor associated with the Project access road and collector line within the BPA ROW, and the areas within the solar array fence lines minus exclusion areas where sensitive resources such as wetlands and streams are being avoided. The final project footprint/impact areas identified in the final Project design will be smaller than the 1,326-acre MPE. The MPE is included in the ASC to allow for final Project siting and design. See Figure 2 for a map of the MPE. The Applicant is considering various solar array design layouts and the final footprint of the Project solar array facilities, Project substation, BESS facilities, O&M building and employee parking area, access roads, collector lines, and laydown areas will not exceed this approximately 1,326-acre MPE area.

1.2 Existing Setting

The Project is located in unincorporated Klickitat County, Washington, on privately owned agricultural and rural residential lands. The Project parcels are primarily in the Klickitat County Extensive Agricultural (EA) District and two Project parcels (totaling approximately 180 acre) and a portion of the Knight Road ROW are located within the Klickitat County General Rural (GR) District. The southern portion of the Project (south of the line that divides Range 15 East Townships 4 and 5) is located in the Energy Overlay Zone (EOZ) (Klickitat County Code [KCC] 19.39). See Figure 2.

Existing land uses in the Project Study Area predominately include crop cultivation (mostly dryland wheat) and pasturelands with some scattered rural residences (owned by Project participant landowners), undeveloped areas, local roads, and electrical infrastructure (e.g., transmission and distribution lines). Adjacent land uses surrounding the Project Study Area are similar and include rural residences owned both by Project participants and non-Project participants, the Goldendale Fish Hatchery and adjacent Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) owned lands, SR-142, the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Knight Substation in association with three BPA high-voltage transmission lines.

2.0 Project Description

2.1 Project Components

The Project would install arrays of solar PV modules to convert light to electrical energy that will either charge the batteries in the BESS or be dispatched into the electric grid at the point of interconnection at the BPA Knight Substation. The Preliminary Site Plan (Figure 3) shows the general arrangement of project components. The Project would operate year-round.

The Project would primarily be accessed from private driveways off of Knight Road, Mesecher Road, Butts Road, and SR-142. The Project's northern and southern solar array areas would be connected by the Collection Line ROW along Knight Road.

Solar modules are connected in series of strings into combiner boxes located adjacent to the module arrays. Combiner box output circuits are routed to the inverter locations and terminated on the direct current (DC) side of the inverter. The inverter converts the DC power source of the array to an alternating current (AC) waveform. The low voltage AC output of the inverter is stepped up to a 34.5-kV medium-voltage collection system through an inverter step up transformer located adjacent to each inverter. The medium-voltage collection circuits are routed throughout the array area to connect each inverter to a collection system feeder circuit. The collection system feeders terminate at the project collector substation and each feeder is protected by a 34.5 kV circuit breaker. The 34.5-kV breakers are connected to a medium-voltage bus which in turn connects to the medium voltage side of the substation transformer. The Project substation transformer steps the voltage from the 34.5-kV collector system voltage up to the 230-kV, then up to the 500-kV system interconnection voltage. The high voltage side of the substation features additional protection, control, and metering equipment before the point of change of control to the utility-owned interconnection facilities.

Permanent chain-link security fencing would be installed around the Project in order to restrict public access and would have a height of up to 7 feet in accordance with the National Electric Code (NFPA 70) requirements. The typical design standard for security fencing is a 6-to-8-foot chain link fence with 1 foot (3 strands) of barbed wire along the top.

Refer to Part 2 of the Project's ASC for a more detailed description of the Project components, including the PV modules, solar tracking system, electrical and communication equipment, the Project substation, BESS, O&M building, access roads, fence, and other infrastructure.

2.2 Construction Schedule and Activities

Construction of the Project is anticipated to take up to 15 months and is anticipated to begin during the first quarter of 2024. It is estimated that there would be approximately 350-450 full-time construction workers per day during the peak of construction. Construction personnel and truck deliveries would increase or decrease during the construction timeline based on the work being performed. Additionally, the number of personnel on site per day and deliveries per day would also vary depending on the total number of construction months. Construction equipment would include but is not limited to heavy-duty trucks, such as semi-trailer dump trucks, graders, water trucks, and 40-foot container trucks. Construction activities will adhere to State of Washington and Klickitat County regulations. Following construction, temporary disturbance areas (i.e., areas not occupied by permanent facilities) will be reclaimed through soil stabilization and revegetation with plant species appropriate for the operation and maintenance of the Project (i.e., low-growing native vegetation). A revegetation plan and weed management plan will be prepared in coordination with EFSEC, with input from WDFW and the Klickitat County Noxious Weed Control Board.

More details on the anticipated construction activities for the Project are provided in Part 2 of the Project's ASC.

2.3 Operations and Maintenance Activities

The life of the Project is anticipated to be 25 to 40 years. Solar equipment has a lifespan of over 30 years. Operations and maintenance of the Project would require up to three full-time equivalent personnel consisting of plant operators, maintenance technicians, and vegetation control specialists. O&M activities would include, but not be limited to, general site and fence line maintenance, vegetation management, equipment monitoring, and equipment repairs. The sites will be monitored with active O&M personnel on-site regularly. More details on the anticipated operations and maintenance activities for the Project are provided in Part 2 of the Project's ASC.

2.4 Decommissioning

The Project expects to sell the renewable energy produced by the Project under the terms of a long-term Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with a utility or other power purchaser. Upon completion of the PPA term, the Project operator may choose to enter into a subsequent PPA or decommission and remove the system and its components at its discretion.

It is anticipated that during Project decommissioning, Project structures not needed for subsequent use would be removed from the Project site. Above-ground equipment that may be removed include module posts and support structures, on-site transmission poles that are not shared with third parties and the overhead collection system within the Project site, inverters, transformers, electrical wiring, equipment on the inverter pads, and related equipment and concrete pads. The substation would be removed if it is owned by the Project. However, if a public or private utility assumes ownership of the substation, the substation may remain on-site to be used as part of the utility service to serve other applications. The chain-link fencing may be removed at the discretion of the landowner.

An Initial Site Restoration Plan for the decommissioning of the facility will be developed and submitted to EFSEC at least 90 days prior to the beginning of site preparation. Per Washington State Administrative Code (WAC) 463-72-040, the plan would identify, evaluate, and resolve all major environmental and public health and safety issues reasonably anticipated. The plan would address provisions for funding or bonding arrangements to meet the site restoration or management costs. The provision of financial assurances shall include evidence of pollution liability insurance coverage in an amount justified for the project, and a site closure bond, sinking fund, or other financial instrument or security in an amount justified in the Initial Site Restoration plan. The Initial Site Restoration Plan will concur with the decommissioning plan prepared for the site. The Initial Site Restoration Plan shall detail restoration goals for site reclamation which will include mitigation measures to be employed, the Project components to be removed, and restoration of soil and vegetation as applicable. It is anticipated that the site will be able to return to agricultural use following decommissioning of the Project, at the landowners' discretion.

More details on decommissioning are provided in Part 2 of the Project's ASC.

3.0 Visual Assessment Methodology

3.1 Visual Impact Criteria

3.1.1 *Visual Impact Criteria*

The purpose of preparing this Assessment is to provide information to meet the SEPA Environmental Checklist requirements for aesthetics (visual) under Washington Administrative Code 197-11-960.

3.1.2 *Visual Change Criteria*

Visual impacts are generally defined in terms of a project's physical characteristics and potential visibility, as well as the extent to which the project's presence would change the perceived visual character and quality of the environment in which it would be located. Tetra Tech, Inc. (Tetra Tech) followed the contrast rating system used by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to objectively measure potential changes to the visual environment (BLM 1986). The BLM's contrast rating system is commonly used by federal agencies to assess potential visual resource impacts from proposed projects and is widely accepted as a standard approach for analyzing potential changes to the visual environment for non-federal projects.

Potential visual impacts were characterized by determining the level of visual contrast introduced by the Project based on comparing existing conditions and photo simulations. Visual contrast is a means to evaluate the level of modification to existing landscape features. Existing landscape is defined by the visual characteristics (form, line, color, and texture) associated with the landform (including water), vegetation, and existing development. The level of visual contrast introduced by a project can be measured by changes in the visual characteristics that would occur as a result of project implementation. The greater the difference between the character elements found within the existing landscape and with a proposed project, the more apparent the level of visual contrast. The following general criteria¹ were used when evaluating the degree of contrast:

None – The contrast is not visible or perceived.

Weak – The contrast can be seen but does not attract attention.

Moderate – The element contrast begins to attract attention and begins to dominate the characteristic landscape.

Strong – The element contrast demands attention, would not be overlooked, and is dominant in the landscape.

¹ These criteria are based on the BLM Visual Resource Management system, a process using the concept of "contrast" to objectively measure potential changes to the landscape features.

3.2 Key Observation Points/Viewshed

3.2.1 Key Observation Points Criteria

Key Observation Points (KOPs) were identified based on locations from which the Project infrastructure would potentially be visible and noticeable to the casual observer. The “casual observer” is considered an observer who is not actively looking or searching for the Project, but who is engaged in activities at locations with potential views of the Project. If the Project components are not noticeable to the casual observer, visual impacts can be considered minor to negligible (i.e., weak).

Viewer distance is a key factor in determining the level of visual effect, with perceived contrast generally diminishing as distance between the viewer and the affected area increases (BLM 1986). The BLM categorizes views into foreground/middleground, background, and seldom seen distance zones. These distance zones provide a frame of reference for classifying the degree to which details of the viewed Project would affect visual resources. The “foreground/middleground” zone is defined as occurring from zero to 5 miles from the Project. Details of Project elements would be visually clear in the foreground; viewers still have the potential to distinguish individual forms, and texture and color are still identifiable but become muted and less detailed in the middleground. In the “background,” defined by the BLM as the area 5 to 15 miles from the Project, texture has disappeared and color has flattened, making objects appear “washed out.” In the relatively flat landscape setting for the Project, although the shape and mass of the solar arrays may be visible at a distance of greater than 5 miles (background distance zone), their visibility would be limited and they would not appear as a prominent feature in the landscape setting, resulting in minimal or negligible visual impacts.

3.2.2 Viewshed

The viewshed is generally the area that is visible from an observer’s viewpoint and includes the screening effects of intervening vegetation and/or physical structures. An initial assessment of the geographic extent of potential Project views was conducted through a viewshed analysis, which evaluated potential visibility of the solar array at distances up to 5 miles from the Project Site Control Boundary.

A viewshed analysis was conducted to identify potential Project visibility within the visual study area or Zone of Visual Influence (ZVI). A viewshed analysis is a graphic representation of the seen and unseen areas adjacent to the Project based on topography within the Project ZVI. The viewshed analysis was conducted using Esri ArcGIS Geographic Information System software with the Spatial Analyst extension to process 10-meter digital elevation models and the height of the solar arrays above ground surface (up to 12 feet above grade with the modules of the solar array at maximum tilt). The viewshed assumed “bare earth” conditions and was run from the Project Site Control Boundary looking out to determine areas with potential visibility. The assumed “bare earth” conditions mean identification of areas with potential views of the Project were based on topography only. A viewshed analysis was performed for the boundary of the MPE (Figure 4). As a

result, the analysis is conservative as it models visibility based on the uniform application of solar modules 12 feet aboveground surface throughout the entire MPE. The analysis is also conservative because it does not account for screening by intervening structures, vegetation, small terrain changes, atmospheric conditions and attenuation, or other features. The ZVI was used to assist with the identification of potential KOPs.

3.2.3 Field Assessment

Based on the ZVI and the identification of publicly accessible routes and viewpoints, potential KOPs were identified and further assessed during the field assessment that occurred on March 29, 2022. During the field assessment, it was determined that visibility of the MPE varies between viewpoints. Depending on the intervening terrain, views of the MPE vary from expanded views to being limited to the nearest edge of the MPE.

A field assessment was conducted at each of the KOPs that followed the protocols and methods for contrast rating evaluation (BLM 1986). The following information was collected at each of the KOPs:

- Global Positioning System (GPS) location,
- Digital photographs for use for visual simulations,
- Data required for the BLM's Visual Contrast Rating Worksheet,
- Time of day and atmospheric conditions, and
- Existing structures and roads in the viewshed.

The visual resources at each KOP were documented in a Visual Contrast Rating Worksheet (Attachment A).

3.2.4 Key Observation Points

Seven KOPs were selected as representative vantage points in the landscape with publicly accessible views of the Project Site Control Boundary (Figure 4). Factors considered in the selection of KOPs included locations with sensitive viewers (e.g., local residences and motorists) and potential for the Project Site Control Boundary to be visible (e.g., distance and view angle).

Digital photographs were taken from the selected KOP locations to support the discussion on existing visual setting and the analysis of potential visual impacts associated with the Project (Figures 5 through 11). Photographs of existing conditions were taken on March 29, 2022 using a digital single-lens reflex Canon 5D Mark III camera.

3.2.5 Visual Simulations

Three-dimensional visual simulations from each KOP were rendered to approximate the visual conditions resulting with Project implementation. Using the photographs acquired at each KOP, a three-dimensional physical massing model was created that incorporated the solar module scale

model. The model was then georeferenced and placed on GPS-controlled site-specific photographs to create simulations that demonstrate visual changes from the Project. Figures 12 through 18 present simulated views of Project features.

4.0 Environmental Setting

4.1 Regional Character

The Project Site Control Boundary is located in the Columbia Plateau geographic region. Covering portions of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and British Columbia, the Columbia Plateau is the main geographic feature of the interior Columbia River Basin. The Columbia Plateau includes various physiographic features, including an alluvial plain along the Columbia River, basalt plateaus, and a transitional, dissected upland area. The natural vegetation type consists of grassy shrub-steppe communities. Man-made modifications include urban development, rural residential development, dryland and irrigated agriculture, rangeland managed for livestock grazing, and substation and power transmission lines.

4.2 Local Setting

The visual setting of the Project Study area is agricultural and rural residential with forestland to the north and east of the Project Site Control Boundary. The Project Site Control Boundary encompasses previously disturbed agricultural land and is surrounded by agricultural fields intermixed with non-native grasslands. The Project Site Control Boundary is characterized by flat to moderately rolling terrain.

Multiple scattered residences are located around the Project Site Control Boundary, with some immediately adjacent to the Project Site Control Boundary. Several roadways are near or cross the Project Site Control Boundary, including SR-142, Knight Road, Mesecher Road West, Fish Hatchery Road, Pine Forest Road, Tucker Hill Road, and Butts Road. The Knight substation and associated transmission lines are located immediately south of the Project's northern parcel. The City of Goldendale is located approximately 1.1 miles southeast of the Project Site Control Boundary. Goldendale Municipal Airport is located approximately 0.5 miles east of the Project Site Control Boundary. Republic Services Goldendale Transfer garbage collection station is located approximately 1.6 miles southeast of the Project Site Control Boundary.

The Project Study Area includes views of three existing BPA transmission line corridors: the 230-kV North Bonneville-Midway No. 1 line, the 500-kV Wautoma-Ostrander No. 1 line, and the 500-kV single-circuit BPA Big Eddy-Knight line. The North Bonneville-Midway line and Wautoma-Ostrander line are located immediately south of the Project's northern array area and the Big Eddy-Knight line extends south from the Knight substation, through the Project Study Area and crosses SR-142. All three of these high-voltage lines include steel towers over 100 feet in height which are visible in the viewshed from multiple points within the Project Study Area. Views of the existing BPA Knight Substation also occur along Knight Road (looking west). Distant viewsheds from the Project Study Area also include several wind farms in the Columbia Hills to the south of the Project,

views of the Goldendale Generating Station to the southeast, views Mount Hood to the southwest, and views Mount Adams to the northwest.

There are several recreational opportunities in the vicinity of the Project Site Control Boundary (Figure 19). Several private and public hunting and fishing parcels are located within or adjacent to the Project Site Control Boundary. The Goldendale Golf Club, three City parks, and the Goldendale Observatory State Park are located within a few miles of the Project Site Control Boundary.

4.3 Visual Resources

Klickitat County contains significant natural features including the Columbia River located approximately 10 miles to the south of the Project Study Area, Mount Adams to the northeast, the Simcoe Mountains to the north/northeast, and the Columbia Hills to the south of the Project Study Area. The nearest designated scenic resource is the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic area, located over 12 miles to the southwest (US Forest Service 2023). There are no National Scenic Byways or All America Roads within the vicinity of the Project Study Area (FHWA 2023). The Goldendale Observatory State Park is a 5-acre facility on a hilltop 2,100 feet above sea level and 2 miles north of downtown Goldendale. Set in the hills above the Columbia River, Goldendale Observatory State Park houses one of the nation's largest public telescopes. By day, panoramic views are available from all corners of the park (Washington State Parks 2022).

In the Project's land use consistency review (see Attachment B of the ASC), no important or significant scenic resources that require protection were identified within the Project Site Control Boundary or its vicinity by the Klickitat County Code (KCC) provisions (Klickitat County 2021) and the Klickitat County Comprehensive Plan (KCCP, Klickitat County 2013). See Section 5.0 Regulatory Setting for more information on the applicable provisions of the KCC and KCCP that relate to visual resources.

4.4 Viewer Types and Characteristics

The term "sensitive viewers" refers to specific user groups associated with various land uses that have a sensitivity to landscape change, and therefore could be adversely affected by the construction and operation of the Project. In this regard, potentially sensitive viewing locations are typically associated with key travel routes, recreation areas, and residential areas. Viewpoints represent critical or typical viewpoints within, or along, an identified viewing location and are used to assess visual impacts of a proposed project. The sensitivity of viewers at each viewpoint is based on the type of use, expected concern for aesthetics, and special status or designation. Identifying groups of individuals that would likely be sensitive to visual changes is an important part of the visual assessment process and helps to define specific locations from which to assess changes to the visual character of the landscape. The inventory of sensitive viewers considered 1) the most critical viewpoints (i.e., views from communities, residential areas, or recreational areas); 2) views from scenic areas specifically identified in local planning documents; and 3) views that represent the general area or landscape setting.

No designated scenic areas are identified in the Project vicinity. In general, the types of viewers expected to have views of the Project are classified as local residents, motorists, and recreationists associated with local recreation opportunities.

Distinctions among user groups and their expected sensitivity to landscape changes, based on activity types and viewing characteristics, are standard components of a visual assessment. For example, residential viewers are generally expected to have moderate to high concern for changes in views from their residences. Motorists' concern generally depends on when and where travel occurs, and the type of travel involved (e.g., commuting vs. recreational travel). However, because their focus is on driving to their destination and because the amount of time that they view the landscape as they drive through is more limited, they may have lower visual sensitivity.

The following discussion summarizes the composition of the groups identified with potential views of the Project and their characteristics that are relevant to the visual assessment.

Local Residents

The local resident viewer group consists of people who live around the Project Site Control Boundary, with some immediately adjacent to the site (Figure 20). Local residents may be more sensitive to changes in their specific views and may have adverse reactions to views of the Project facilities.

The existing landscape already includes man-made features including a substation and transmission lines, and as a result, the addition of solar panels to the view would not be as significant a change as it would if the landscape had no development. For example, residents with a view across the open pasturelands within the Project Site Control Boundary who have views of the substation and high-voltage transmission lines may be less sensitive to landscape changes than those with just a view of open pasturelands.

Travelers

Travelers passing through an area typically view the landscape from motor vehicles on their way to work or other destinations. Travelers include people engaged in various types of business or personal travel. Commuters do not tend to stop along their travel routes, have a relatively narrow field of view because they are focused on road and traffic conditions, and are destination-oriented. Passengers in commuter vehicles would have greater opportunities for prolonged off-road views toward landscape features and, accordingly, may have greater perception of changes in the visual environment. Through travelers are typically moving, have a relatively narrow field of view and are destination-oriented. Generally, drivers in this group are focused on driving and on the road and traffic conditions but do have the opportunity to observe roadside scenery.

Most travel routes adjacent to or crossing the Project Site Control Boundary consist of secondary roads maintained by Klickitat County and farm roads. It is anticipated these local roads are used primarily by people traveling to and from residences and work locations. This viewer group is likely to produce relatively small traffic volumes because of the scattered resident population around the Project Site Control Boundary. A greater number of viewers would be expected on SR-142, immediately south of the Project Site Control Boundary.

Tourists and Recreational Users

This viewer group includes local residents engaged in recreational activities and tourists and recreational users visiting from outside of the local area. These users can be involved in outdoor recreational activities at parks and other developed recreational facilities or in undeveloped natural settings such as forests, fields, and water bodies. Tourists and recreational users come to or travel through the area to experience cultural, scenic, and/or recreational resources.

The recreational user group includes those involved in active recreation (e.g., hunters and bicyclists) and those involved in more passive recreational activities (e.g., picnicking, sightseeing, wildlife observation, or walking). For some of these viewers, scenery is a very important part of their recreational experience, and recreational users often have continuous views of landscape features over relatively long periods of time. However, most recreational viewers would only view the surrounding landscape from ground-level vantage points. Recreational users' sensitivity to visual quality and landscape character would be variable, depending on their reason for visiting the area. For example, an off-highway vehicle recreation user is considered less sensitive to visual change than a wildlife viewer or a recreator looking for a cultural experience. However, recreators are generally considered to have relatively high sensitivity to scenic quality and landscape character.

Recreation around the Project Site Control Boundary primarily involves activities associated with hunting and fishing parcels and with local recreation sites including the Goldendale Observatory State Park (Figure 19).

4.5 Existing Visual Character

Based on the BLM's contrast rating system (Section 3.1.2), seven KOPs were selected to assess the level of visual change resulting from the construction of the Project as described in Section 2. The location of the KOPs and site photograph locations are presented in Figure 4. Photographs from each KOP are presented in Figures 5 through 11.

4.5.1 KOP 1

KOP 1 is on SR-142 approximately 1 mile west of Knight Road. This viewpoint is immediately south of the MPE. As shown on Figure 5, the existing landscape setting is characterized by agricultural land with flat to rolling terrain with hilly and mountainous terrain in the background. Existing structural features include fencing, road, utility poles and lines, and agricultural structures. Vegetation includes grasses, shrubs, and trees. Dominant colors for the landscape are brown and green, while the structures are gray, brown, and white. The vegetation consists of irregular, organic forms: grasses are continuous with irregular shaped shrubs and trees. The linear and horizontal lines associated with the structures are visible and prominent from this viewpoint. This KOP provides a typical view for drivers traveling west along SR-142. Considering the short duration of Project visibility while driving along the roadway, viewers could have a low sensitivity to the visual changes in the area. This KOP also provides a view for the residence near this viewpoint to the east.

Considering the potential frequency of views from this location from the residence, viewers could have a moderate to high sensitivity to the visual changes in the area.

4.5.2 KOP 2

KOP 2 is on Fish Hatchery Road, approximately 0.7 miles east of Hill Road. This viewpoint is approximately 0.3 miles west of the MPE. As shown on Figure 6, the existing landscape setting is characterized by agricultural land on generally rolling to hilly terrain. Existing structural features include fencing, road, transmission tower and lines (including BPA's 500-kV Big Eddy-Knight transmission line), utility poles and lines, and residential structures. Vegetation includes grasses and trees. Dominant colors for the landscape are tan and green, while the structures are tan, gray, white and brown. The vegetation consists of irregular, organic forms: grasses are continuous with irregular shaped trees. Trees appear in the background as covering hillsides. The linear and horizontal lines associated with the structures are visible and prominent from this viewpoint. This KOP provides a typical view for drivers traveling east on Fish Hatchery Road. Considering the short duration of Project visibility while driving along the roadway, viewers could have a low viewer sensitivity to the visual changes in the area. This KOP also captures potential views from the residences located west of this viewpoint (see Figure 20). Considering the potential frequency of views from this location from the residence, viewers could have a moderate to high sensitivity to the visual changes in the area.

4.5.3 KOP 3

KOP 3 is on Knight Road, approximately 0.14 miles south of the intersection of Knight Road and Pine Forest Road. The MPE is located on both sides (east and west) of Knight Road at KOP 3. As shown on Figure 7, the existing landscape setting is characterized by agricultural land on generally rolling to hilly to steep terrain. Existing structural features include fencing, road, transmission tower and lines (including BPA transmission line corridors associated with the 230-kV North Bonneville-Midway No. 1 line and 500-kV Wautoma-Ostrander No. 1 line), utility poles and lines, residential and agricultural structures, and wind turbines. Vegetation includes grasses and trees. Dominant colors for the landscape are tan and green, while the structures are gray, brown, and white. The vegetation consists of irregular, organic forms: grasses are continuous with irregular shaped trees. The linear and horizontal lines associated with existing structures are visible and prominent from this viewpoint. This KOP provides a typical view for drivers traveling south on Knight Road. Depending on the time spent driving on Knight Road, viewers could have a moderate to high sensitivity to the visual changes in the area. This KOP also captures potential views from the residences located north of this viewpoint (see Figure 20). Considering the potential frequency of views from this location from the residences, viewers could have a moderate to high sensitivity to the visual changes in the area.

4.5.4 KOP 4

KOP 4 is on Pine Forest Road, approximately 0.6 miles east of the MPE. As shown on Figure 8, the existing landscape setting is characterized by agricultural land on generally rolling terrain with hilly to steep terrain in the background. Existing structural features include fencing, agricultural structures, utility poles and lines, and transmission towers and lines. Vegetation includes grasses, shrubs, and trees. Dominant colors for the landscape are green and brown, while the structures are gray, brown, white, and yellow. The vegetation consists of irregular, organic forms: grasses are continuous with irregular shaped shrubs and trees. The linear and horizontal lines associated with the structures are visible and prominent from this viewpoint. This KOP provides a typical view for drivers traveling south on Pine Forest Road. Depending on the time spent driving on Pine Forest Road, viewers could have a low to moderate sensitivity to the visual changes in the area. This KOP also captures potential views from the residences located east of this viewpoint (see Figure 20). Considering the potential frequency of views from this location from the residence, viewers could have a moderate to high sensitivity to the visual changes in the area.

4.5.5 KOP 5

KOP 5 is on Knight Road, approximately 0.5 miles north of the intersection of Knight Road and SR-142. This viewpoint is immediately adjacent to and west of the MPE. As shown on Figure 9, the existing landscape setting is characterized by agricultural land on generally rolling to hilly to steep terrain. Existing structural features include fencing, road, utility poles and lines, residential structures, agricultural structures, and transmission tower and lines. Vegetation includes grasses and trees. Dominant colors for the landscape are tan and green, while the structures are gray, white and brown. The vegetation consists of irregular, organic forms: grasses are continuous with irregular shaped trees. Trees appear in the middleground covering hillsides. The linear and horizontal lines associated with the existing structures are visible and prominent from this viewpoint. This KOP provides a typical view for drivers traveling north on Knight Road. Depending on the time spent driving on Knight Road, viewers could have a low to moderate sensitivity to the visual changes in the area. This KOP also captures potential views from the non-Project participant residence located south of this viewpoint (see Figure 20). Considering the potential frequency of views from this location from the residence, viewers could have a moderate to high sensitivity to the visual changes in the area.

4.5.6 KOP 6

KOP 6 is on SR-142, adjacent to the intersection of SR-142 and Tom Miller Road. This viewpoint is approximately 0.5 miles southeast of the MPE. As shown on Figure 10, the existing landscape setting is characterized by agricultural land on generally rolling to hilly terrain with mountains in the background. Existing structural features include fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines, agricultural structures, and residential structures. Vegetation includes grasses and trees. Dominant colors for the landscape are brown and green, while the structures are gray, white, and brown. The vegetation consists of irregular, organic forms: grasses are continuous with

irregular shaped trees. Trees appear in the middleground. The linear and horizontal lines associated with the structures are visible from this viewpoint. This KOP provides a typical view for drivers traveling west along SR-142. Considering the short duration of Project visibility while driving along the roadway, viewers could have a low viewer sensitivity to the visual changes in the area. This KOP also captures potential views from the residences located east of this viewpoint. Considering the potential frequency of views from this location from the residences, viewers could have a moderate to high sensitivity to the visual changes in the area.

4.5.7 KOP 7

KOP 7 is at the Goldendale Observatory State Park lookout point. This viewpoint is approximately 2.4 miles east of the MPE. As shown on Figure 11, the existing landscape setting is characterized by the park land with hilly terrain overlooking the City of Goldendale and the surrounding agricultural land with mountains in the background. Existing structural features include urban and agricultural development. Vegetation includes grasses and trees. Dominant colors for the landscape are brown and green, while the structures are gray, white, and brown. The vegetation consists of irregular, organic forms: grasses are continuous with irregular shaped trees. A cluster of trees are prominent in the immediate foreground and at the time the photos were taken, no leaves were on the deciduous trees. The linear and horizontal lines associated with the structures are visible from this viewpoint. This KOP provides a typical view for people visiting the park and using the outlook point. These viewers are generally considered to have relatively high sensitivity to scenic quality and landscape character.

5.0 Regulatory Setting

The Applicant has elected to seek Project approval by the Governor upon recommendation of a Site Certification Agreement (SCA) by Washington State's EFSEC, and thus submitted an ASC on February 10, 2023. RCW 80.50.110 allows EFSEC to preempt the County review process and per WAC 463-28-070, the EFSEC SCA ... "shall include conditions in the draft certification agreement which consider state or local governmental or community interests affected by the construction or operation of the energy facility or alternative energy resource and the purposes of laws or ordinances, or rules or regulations promulgated thereunder that are preempted pursuant to RCW 80.50.110(2)." To support the land use analysis in the ASC, a land use consistency review was prepared to address applicable KCC provisions (Klickitat County 2021) and the KCCP (Klickitat County 2013) and was included as Attachment B to the ASC. The following includes a discussion of the KCCP and KCC provisions applicable to the protection of scenic and visual resources.

KCCP

The KCCP goals and policies applicable to the Project were reviewed for consistency in Section 2.1 of the Project's land use consistency review (Attachment B of the ASC). None of the KCCP goals and policies reviewed identified any important or significant scenic resources that require protection within the Project Site Control Boundary or its vicinity.

Under the KCCP Goal “To promote provision of utilities sufficient to protect the public health and welfare” (under the Public Services/Utilities Concern), Policy 11 states: “Power substations should be screened with mature plantings or be designed to blend visually with their surroundings.” The Project will be consistent with this KCCP Goal/Policy for the following reasons:

- The Project’s proposed substation is within 500 feet of the existing BPA Knight Substation which is located approximately 0.5 mile west of Knight Road. Vegetative screening is not utilized at the BPA Knight Substation. The Project substation would be located within the same viewshed area as the Knight Substation and will look very similar to the existing substation. Views of the two substations are not anticipated to materially change and for these reasons, vegetative screening for the Project substation is not anticipated to be necessary as it will blend visually with the existing Knight Substation.
- Although this policy is specific to substations, the Project infrastructure has been designed to minimize contrast with the surrounding vicinity, which includes the existing electrical infrastructure of the Knight Substation and several existing BPA transmission lines. As further discussed in Section 6.0, the Project infrastructure generally will introduce weak to moderate visual contrast with the surrounding landscape, depending on viewing location, topographic factors, and other landscape features such as existing vegetation and land uses. Strong visual contrast will occur along Knight Road, but Project components would be consistent with other horizontal and vertical lines and geometric shapes visible throughout the landscape and would not block views of the hills and mountains in the background. The Project facilities are located adjacent to the existing electrical infrastructure in order to visually blend with the existing infrastructure. Other measures to minimize visual contrast will include using non-reflective materials and finishes on Project components and post-construction vegetation restoration of temporarily disturbed areas. The Project is therefore consistent with this policy to design power facilities to blend visually with their surroundings.

KCC

The KCC establishes a number of zoning districts, based on use classifications, and does not specifically identify scenic resources. One of the zoning districts is the Scenic Design district, for which the stated purpose is to protect vistas, views, and aesthetics of the scenery of the county. Another district is the View Protection district, for which the stated purpose is to protect and preserve the view potential of property owners with exceptionally scenic panoramas. The county zoning map (Klickitat County 2022) does not identify any areas having the Scenic Design district or the View Protection district designation within or adjacent to the Project Site Control Boundary. Based on the specific content of the zoning ordinance and map, no features within the Project Site Control Boundary are identified as important or significant scenic resources.

As noted in Section 1.2, the southern (and larger) portion of the Project Site Control Boundary (south of the line that divides Range 15 East Townships 4 and 5) is located in the EOZ (KCC 19.39) (see Figure 2). Per KCC 19.39:2.A, the EOZ is an overlay over existing zones, and projects permitted through the EOZ process shall comply with the standards of KCC chapter 19.39 rather than the

standards of the existing zone. Under KCC 19.39:2.A and 19.39.4.B, solar energy facilities are a permitted use in areas located in the EOZ. However, as a portion of the Project is located within the EOZ (where the Project is a permitted use) and a portion is located outside of the EOZ (where the Project is a conditional use), pursuant to KCC 19.08.070, the most restrictive requirements shall prevail in the event of conflict between code provisions. Here, the most restrictive process is the conditional use permit process, and thus Project compliance with local zoning for purpose of the land use consistency determination was evaluated in the ASC using the conditional use permit process, pursuant to KCC 19.16.030.E (Extensive Agriculture District,) and 19.18.030.H (General Rural Zone). Although the EOZ standards do not apply to the Project as it is held to the more restrictive conditional use permit process, the Applicant has evaluated the Project's consistency with the solar specific development standards in KCC 19.39:8 and 19.39:9, because the solar standards could be used to evaluate whether the use is compatible with the existing and potential uses in the vicinity which are permitted outright (i.e. the conditional use standard per KCC 19.04.160).

Development standards in the EOZ (KCC 19.39:8.A) require solar panels be setback a minimum distance of 500 to 1,500 feet from existing residential structures:

... Solar panels shall be sited a minimum of five hundred to one thousand five hundred feet from existing residential structures. The setback shall be determined during permitting based upon factors including aesthetic impacts, geography, and project size. The location and density of residential uses in the vicinity and the nature of the project may require increased setback requirements [KCC 19.39:8(A)(1)].

As shown on the Preliminary Site Plan (see Figure 3) and in Figure 20, all solar panels are sited a minimum of 500 feet from existing residential structures not owned by project-participating land owners. Setbacks from some participating landowner residences will be less than 500 feet; however, those landowners have, by their participation, accepted the development of the Project. The primary factor related to setback distance referenced in KCC 19.39:8 is aesthetic impacts. Visual impacts of the Project from nearby non-participating residential structures are evaluated via the KOPs in Section 6.0 of this Assessment.

6.0 Impact Analysis

6.1 Potential Visual Effects

During construction and operations, the Project, where visible and noticeable, may introduce visual contrast and have the potential to create visual effects within the surrounding areas. The potential visual effects anticipated as a result of construction and operation of the Project are discussed below.

If the Project components are not visible or perceived, no visual impact would occur. If the Project components introduce contrast to the view but do not attract the attention of the casual observer, the contrast is considered weak and the visual impacts could be considered minor to negligible. If the visual contrast introduced by the Project begins to attract attention and begins to dominate the

view, the contrast is considered moderate and the impact could be considered moderate. If the Project components introduce contrast that demands attention, would not be overlooked, and is dominant in the view, the contrast is considered strong and the impact could be considered strong.

Development of the Project will entail construction activities that would include but not be limited to the clearing and grubbing of existing vegetation, grading of access roads, and installation of project components. Construction staging and laydown areas would be established as needed for parking, construction, storage and use within the MPE. Construction of the Project is expected to occur over approximately 15 months. These visual changes would be transient and short-term in nature.

Completion of the Project would introduce many new visual elements into the MPE. These would include solar project components consisting of modules, tracking system and posts, overhead collector lines, Project substation, O&M building, a BESS, access and service roads, fencing, gates, and security lighting.

6.1.1 KOP 1

KOP 1 represents a view of the Project for drivers traveling along SR-142 and the residence adjacent to this viewpoint. Due to the level of traffic along SR-142 and the short distance to the MPE, this KOP has increased potential for views of the Project. This KOP also represents views from the southwest side of the Project's MPE. Figure 12 presents a simulated view of Project components from KOP 1.

The Project would introduce light and dark gray colors, geometric shapes, and horizontal lines into the landscape setting and would be visible from this location by a casual observer (see Figure 12). The colors, regular geometric forms, and horizontal lines associated with the solar arrays would result in a visual contrast with the irregular, organic forms and colors of the existing vegetation; however, vegetative ground cover on the Project site will be visible and consistent with the existing vegetation. Existing structures in the vicinity possess horizontal and vertical lines (fencing, roadway, utility poles and overhead distribution lines, buildings) and some are colored gray (roadway, transmission lines).

Views of the Project would attract attention to the casual observer and would co-dominate the landscape. This would be a short-term visual experience for travelers. Views of the Project from the adjacent non-project participating residence (on tax parcel 04151451000100, labeled as residential structure 9 in Figure 20) will be partially obscured by existing structures and trees adjacent to the residence and the closest solar panel array would be over 500 feet from the residence (see Figure 3 and Figure 20). Where the Project is visible, the Project components would be consistent with other horizontal and vertical lines and geometric shapes visible throughout the landscape and would not block views of agricultural lands or the hills and mountains in the background; however, the Project would introduce moderate contrast given the proximity of the adjacent non-project participating residence to Project facilities and visual impacts would be considered moderate (Attachment A).

6.1.2 KOP 2

KOP 2 represents a view of the Project for drivers traveling east along Fish Hatchery Road and the residences near this viewpoint (see Figure 20). This KOP also represents views from the west side of the central portion of the MPE. Figure 13 presents a simulated view of Project components from KOP 2.

Visibility of the Project from this location by a casual observer would be limited to the western edge of the solar array area north of Fish Hatchery Road located approximately 0.3 miles east of the KOP due to intervening topography. The solar arrays south of Fish Hatchery Road would likely not be visible from this viewpoint due to the distance from the KOP and topography. Where visible, the Project would introduce light and dark gray colors, geometric shapes, and horizontal lines into the landscape setting. The colors, regular geometric forms, and horizontal lines associated with the solar arrays would result in a visual contrast with the irregular, organic forms and colors of the surrounding existing vegetation; however, vegetative ground cover on the Project site will be visible and consistent with the existing vegetation. Existing structures in the vicinity possess horizontal and vertical lines (fencing, road, transmission tower and lines, utility poles and lines, and residential structures) and some are colored gray (transmission towers and lines).

While the Project would begin to attract attention to the casual observer, the portion of the Project that would be visible would not dominate the landscape. This would be a short-term visual experience for travelers. For the views of the Project from the residence located along Fish Hatchery Road near this viewpoint, the Project components, while appearing as new features, would be consistent with other horizontal and vertical lines and geometric shapes visible throughout the landscape and will be muted and less detailed as the closest arrays would be over 0.3 miles from the closest residence (see Figure 3 and Figure 20). As the Project would not block views of the surrounding hills and agricultural land, would have limited visibility from this viewpoint, and where visible, would be consistent with other horizontal and vertical lines and geometric shapes visible throughout the landscape, the Project would introduce weak contrast and visual impacts would be considered minor.

6.1.3 KOP 3

KOP 3 represents a view of the Project for drivers traveling south on Knight Road and the non-project participating residences north of this viewpoint. This KOP also represents views of the north portion of the MPE. Figure 14 presents a simulated view of Project components from KOP 3.

The Project would introduce light and dark gray colors, geometric shapes, and horizontal lines into the landscape setting and would be visible from this location by a casual observer. The colors, regular geometric forms, and horizontal lines associated with the solar arrays would result in a visual contrast with the irregular, organic forms and colors of the existing vegetation; however, vegetative ground cover on the Project site will be visible and consistent with the existing vegetation. Existing structures in the vicinity possess horizontal and vertical lines (fencing, road, transmission tower and lines, utility poles and lines, residential and agricultural structures, and

wind turbines) and some are colored gray (roadway, transmission tower and lines, agricultural structures).

Views of the Project would demand attention, would not be overlooked by the casual observer and would dominate the landscape. This would be a short-term visual experience for travelers.

Views of the Project from the adjacent non-project participating residence located north of KOP 3, include a residential structure owned by a participating landowner (on tax parcel 05152500001000, labeled as residential structure 90 on Figure 20) and a residential structure owned by a non-participating landowner (on tax parcel 05152500000700, labeled as residential structure 91 on Figure 20). Views of the Project from these two residential structures will be partially obscured by existing structures and trees adjacent to the residences and the closest solar panel array would be over 500 feet from the residential structures (see Figure 3 and Figure 20). Where the Project is visible, the Project components would be consistent with other horizontal and vertical lines and geometric shapes visible throughout the landscape and would not block views of the hills and mountains in the background. However, the Project would introduce moderate contrast given the proximity of the adjacent non-project participating residences to Project facilities and visual impacts would be considered moderate.

6.1.4 KOP 4

KOP 4 represents a view of the Project for drivers traveling south on Pine Forest Road and the non-Project participating residences near this viewpoint. This KOP also represents views from the east side of the MPE. Figures 15a and 15b present a simulated view of Project components from KOP 4.

Visibility of the Project from this location by a casual observer would be limited by intervening topography and structures. See Figure 15b where portions of the Project obscured by existing terrain and vegetation is highlighted in orange. Where visible (see Figure 15a), the Project would introduce dark gray color into the landscape setting, The Project would also introduce geometric shapes, and horizontal lines; however, at this viewing distance, the shapes and lines and any contrast to the existing landscape would be difficult to distinguish. In addition, existing structures in the vicinity possess horizontal and vertical lines (fencing, agricultural structures, utility poles and lines, and transmission towers and lines) and some are colored gray (agricultural structures, transmission towers and lines).

Due to the viewing distance and the rolling terrain, Project elements start to blend in with the existing landform silhouette, and the appearance of visual contrast would be reduced. The Project is not likely to attract attention to the casual observer and the portion of the Project that would be visible would not dominate the landscape. This would be short-term visual experience for travelers. Views of the Project from the adjacent residences will be partially obscured by existing trees adjacent to the residences. Where visible, the Project components, while appearing as new features, would be consistent with other horizontal and vertical lines and geometric shapes visible throughout the landscape. The Project would not block views of the surrounding hills and agricultural land and the contrast introduced by the Project would be very weak and visual impacts could be considered minor to negligible.

6.1.5 KOP 5

KOP 5 represents a view of the Project for drivers traveling north on Knight Road and the non-project participating residence (on tax parcel 04151300000200, labeled residential structure 11 on Figure 20) adjacent to this viewpoint. This KOP also represents views of the south side of the MPE. Figure 16 presents a simulated view of Project components from KOP 5.

The Project would introduce light and dark gray colors, geometric shapes, and horizontal lines into the landscape setting and would be visible from this location by a casual observer. The colors, regular geometric forms, and horizontal lines associated with the solar arrays would result in a visual contrast with the irregular, organic forms and colors of the existing vegetation, however, vegetative ground cover on the Project site will be visible and consistent with the existing vegetation. Existing structures in the vicinity possess horizontal and vertical lines (fencing, agricultural structures, utility poles and lines, and transmission towers and lines) and some are colored gray (roadway, transmission tower and lines, agricultural structures).

Views of the Project would demand attention, could not be overlooked by the casual observer and would dominate the landscape. This would be a short-term visual experience for travelers.

Views of the Project from the adjacent residence (on tax parcel 04151300000200) will be partially obscured by existing structures and trees adjacent to the residence and the closest solar panel array would be over 500 feet from the residential structure (see Figure 3 and Figure 20). Where the Project is visible, the Project components would be consistent with other horizontal and vertical lines and geometric shapes visible throughout the landscape and would not block views of the hills and mountains in the background. However, the Project would introduce moderate contrast given the proximity of the adjacent non-project participating residence to Project facilities and visual impacts would be considered moderate.

6.1.6 KOP 6

KOP 6 represents a view of the Project for drivers traveling west on SR-142 and the residences adjacent to this viewpoint. This KOP also represents views from southeast of the MPE. The closest solar panel arrays are over 0.5 mile northwest from KOP 6. Figure 17 presents a simulated view of the Project features from KOP 6.

Due to the distance from the MPE, visibility of the Project from this location by a casual observer would be limited by intervening topography and structures. Where visible, the Project would introduce dark gray color, geometric shapes, and horizontal lines into the landscape setting. The colors, regular geometric forms, and horizontal lines associated with the solar arrays would result in a visual contrast with the irregular, organic forms and colors of the existing vegetation. Existing structures in the vicinity possess horizontal and vertical lines (structural features include fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines, agricultural structures, and residential structures) and some are colored gray (agricultural structures, transmission towers and lines).

Due to the viewing distance and the rolling terrain, Project elements start to blend in with the existing landform silhouette, and the appearance of visual contrast would be reduced. The portion

of the Project that would be visible from this KOP would not dominate the landscape, and the contrast would be considered weak (Figure 17). This would be a short-term visual experience for travelers. Views of the Project from the adjacent non-project participating residences (see residential structures 4, 5, 6, and 13 in Figure 20) will be partially obscured by existing trees adjacent to the residences. Where visible, the Project components, while appearing as new features, would be consistent with other horizontal and vertical lines and geometric shapes visible throughout the landscape. The Project would not block views of the surrounding hills and agricultural land and the contrast introduced by the Project would be weak.

6.1.7 KOP 7

KOP 7 represents a view of the Project from Goldendale Observatory State Park lookout point. This KOP also represents views of the east side of the Project MPE. Figures 18a and 18b present a simulated view of Project components from KOP 7.

Visibility of the Project from this location by a casual observer would be partially limited by intervening topography, vegetation, and structures. See Figure 18b where portions of the Project obscured by existing terrain and vegetation are highlighted in orange. Portions of the project will further be obscured by vegetation during the summer and fall months when the deciduous trees in the foreground have leaves. Where visible (see Figure 18a), the Project would introduce dark gray color into the landscape setting, The Project would also introduce geometric shapes, and horizontal lines, however, at this viewing distance, the shapes and lines and any contrast to the existing landscape would be difficult to distinguish. In addition, existing structures in the vicinity possess horizontal and vertical lines (structural features include fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines, agricultural structures, and residential structures) and some are colored gray (agricultural structures, transmission towers and lines).

Due to the viewing distance and the rolling terrain, Project elements start to blend in with the existing landform silhouette, and the appearance of visual contrast would be reduced. The gray color and geometric shape created by the solar arrays would begin to demand attention but would be seen in the context of City of Goldendale development and would not appear as a dominant feature in the landscape setting.

This would be a short-term visual experience for visitors at the Goldendale Observatory State Park. Where visible, the Project components, while appearing as new features, would be consistent with other horizontal and vertical lines and geometric shapes visible throughout the landscape. The Project would not block views of the surrounding agricultural land or the hills and mountains in the background and the contrast introduced by the Project would be weak.

6.2 Conclusion

In conclusion, the constructed Project would introduce many new visual elements into the subject parcels. However, as the Project would not be visible from the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic area, or from the City of Goldendale due to topography and distance, would not block views of any significant landmarks such as the Simcoe Mountains, Mount Hood, Mount Adams, or the

Columbia Hills, and would have only weak visual impacts from the Goldendale Observatory, it would not have significant effect on the visual resources in the area.

The Project would introduce moderate contrast to the existing visual character along SR-142 and Knight Road, but this would be a temporary viewing experience for travelers along these roads. The Project would introduce moderate contrast to the existing visual character at homes located along SR-142, Knight Road, and potentially at other homes located in proximity to the Project MPE. However, the Project components, while appearing as new features, would be consistent with other horizontal and vertical lines and geometric shapes associated with existing electric transmission lines, roads, and the built environment visible throughout the landscape. Furthermore, the Project would not block views of the surrounding hills and agricultural land.

7.0 References

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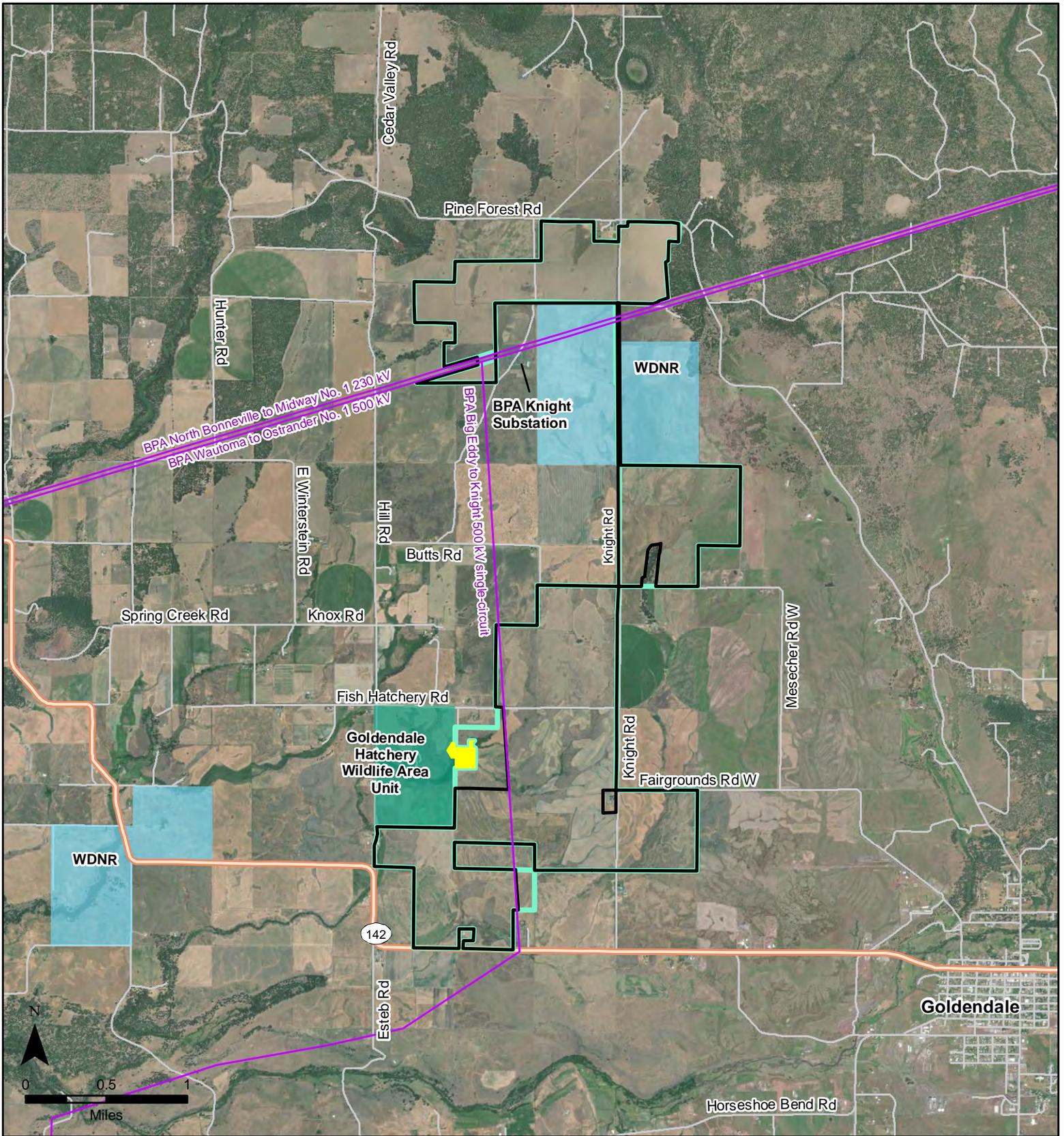
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Figures

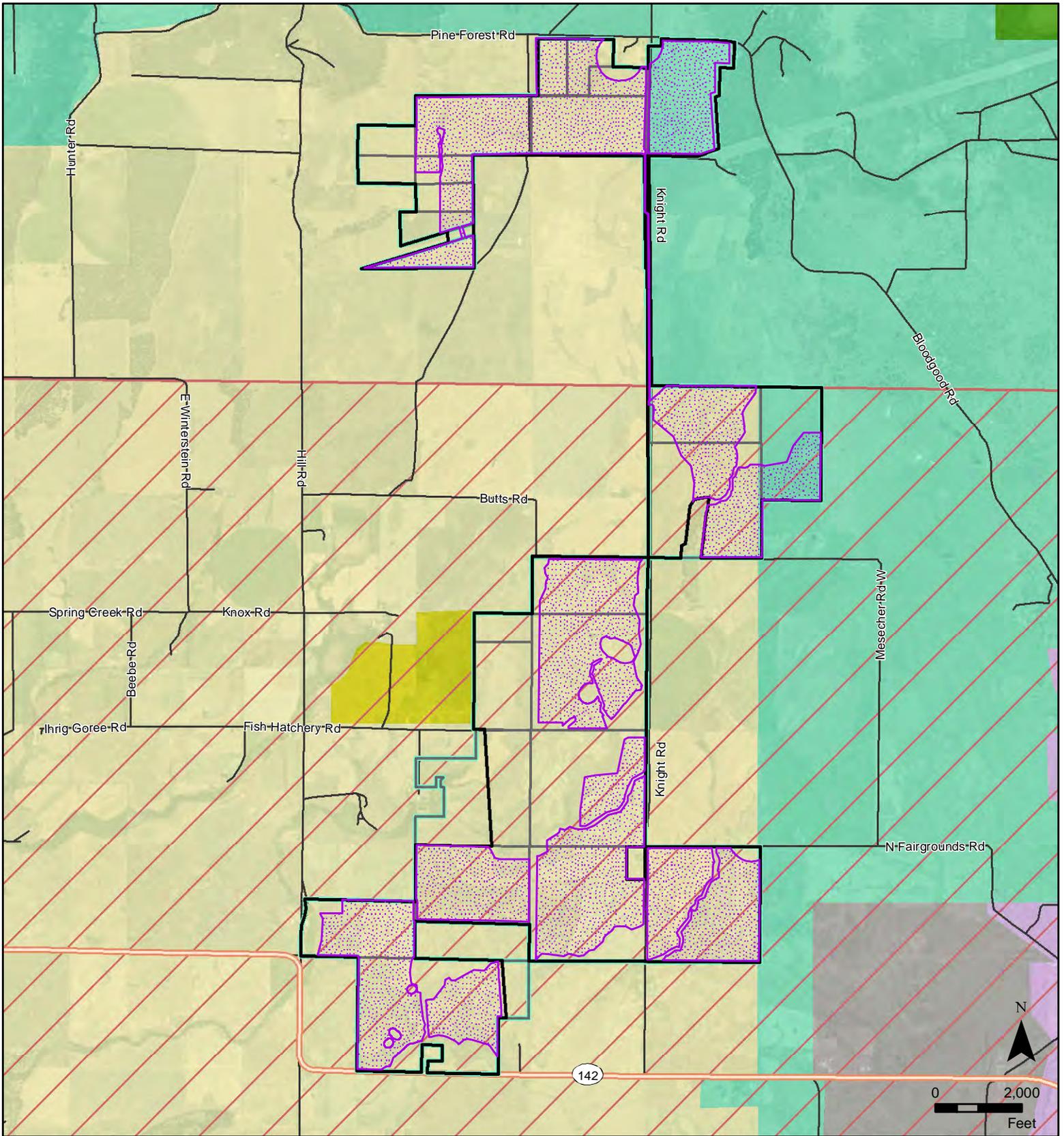


- Project Site Control Boundary
- Project Study Area
- Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
- Washington Dept. of Natural Resources
- Goldendale Fish Hatchery
- State Route
- Local Road
- Existing BPA
- Transmission Line



Figure 1
Project Location

Prepared for:
Carriger Solar, LLC Project
April 5, 2023

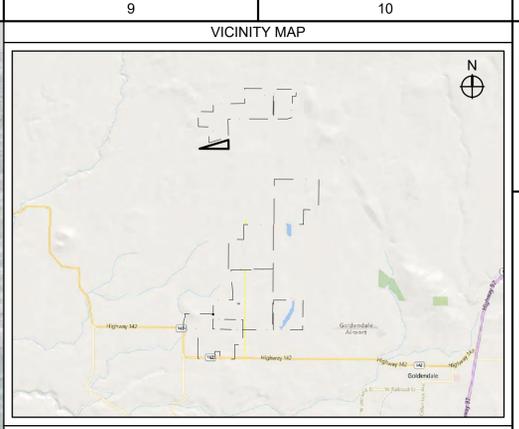
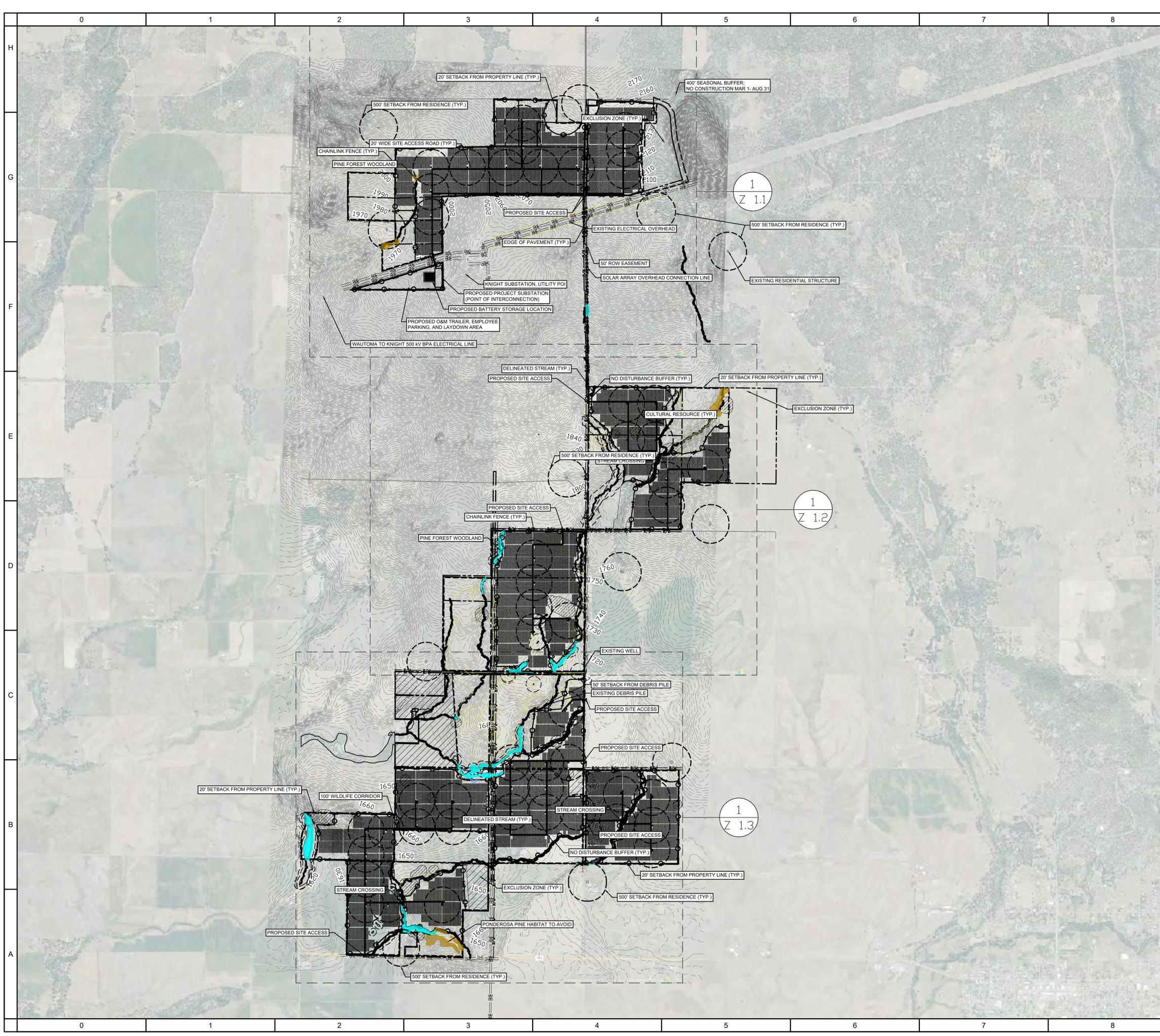


- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
|  | Project Site Control Boundary |  | Extensive Agriculture-Cluster |
|  | Project Study Area |  | Forest Resource |
|  | Maximum Project Extent (MPE) |  | General Rural |
|  | Project Parcels |  | Industrial Park |
|  | Energy Overlay Zone (EOZ) |  | Open Space |
|  | Extensive Agriculture |  | Rural Residential 2 |



Figure 2 Zoning and MPE

Prepared for:
Carriger Solar, LLC Project
April 5, 2023



- NOTES:**
1. PV ARRAY AS SHOWN IS REPRESENTATIVE AND TO BE FINALIZED PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.
 2. AERIAL IMAGE MAY NOT ALIGN EXACTLY WITH SURVEY DUE TO MAP PROJECTION.
 3. ALL EXISTING ROAD LOCATIONS SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE.
 4. EXACT PROPOSED INTERIOR ACCESS ROAD LOCATIONS ARE REPRESENTATIVE, AND TO BE FINALIZED PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.
 5. PV ARRAY FENCE IS ASSUMED TO ROUTE THROUGH OVERHEAD ELECTRICAL LINE EASEMENT.
 6. WETLANDS: DELINEATED
 7. TOPOGRAPHY: ALTA SURVEY

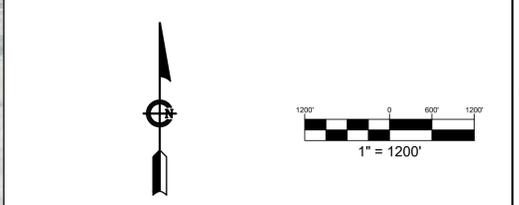
Figure 2. Preliminary Site Plan

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS DESIGN SUMMARY

UTILITY	BPA
POI VOLTAGE (KV)	500.00
AC SYSTEM SIZE (MW)	160.00
DC SYSTEM SIZE (MW)	224.00
DC/AC RATIO	1.40
INVERTER MAKE/MODEL	SMA 4200 UP-US
INVERTER QTY	42
PV MODULE MAKE/MODEL	MAXEON
PV MODULE QTY	407349
PV MODULE STC RATING (W)	550
MODULES PER STRING	27
STRING QTY	15087
RACKING FOUNDATIONS QTY	60348
DC SYSTEM MAX VOLTAGE (V)	1500
RACKING MAKE/MODEL	NEXTRACKER
RACK CONFIGURATION	SAT
MODULE ORIENTATION	1-PORTRAIT
TILT (°)	±60
GCR	0.33
CLEAR ROW SPACING (FT)	15.230
CENTER-CENTER ROW SPACING (FT)	22.730
AZIMUTH (°)	180
LATITUDE (°)	45.877
LONGITUDE (°)	-120.886

LEGEND

EXISTING CONDITIONS	PROPOSED CONDITIONS
100 YEAR FLOOD ZONE	EASEMENTS
BUILDING SETBACK	EQUIPMENT PAD
EASEMENTS	ELECTRICAL (OVERHEAD)
EDGE OF PAVEMENT	ELECTRICAL (UNDERGROUND)
ELECTRICAL (OVERHEAD)	PROJECT AREA
DELINEATED STREAM	PROPERTY LINE
PROPERTY LINES	SECURITY FENCE
RIGHT-OF-WAY	SITE ACCESS
STRUCTURES	
DELINEATED WETLAND	
EASTSIDE RIPARIAN WETLANDS	
DWARF SHRUB-STEPPE	
PONDEROSA PINE FOREST	
EASTSIDE GRASSLANDS	

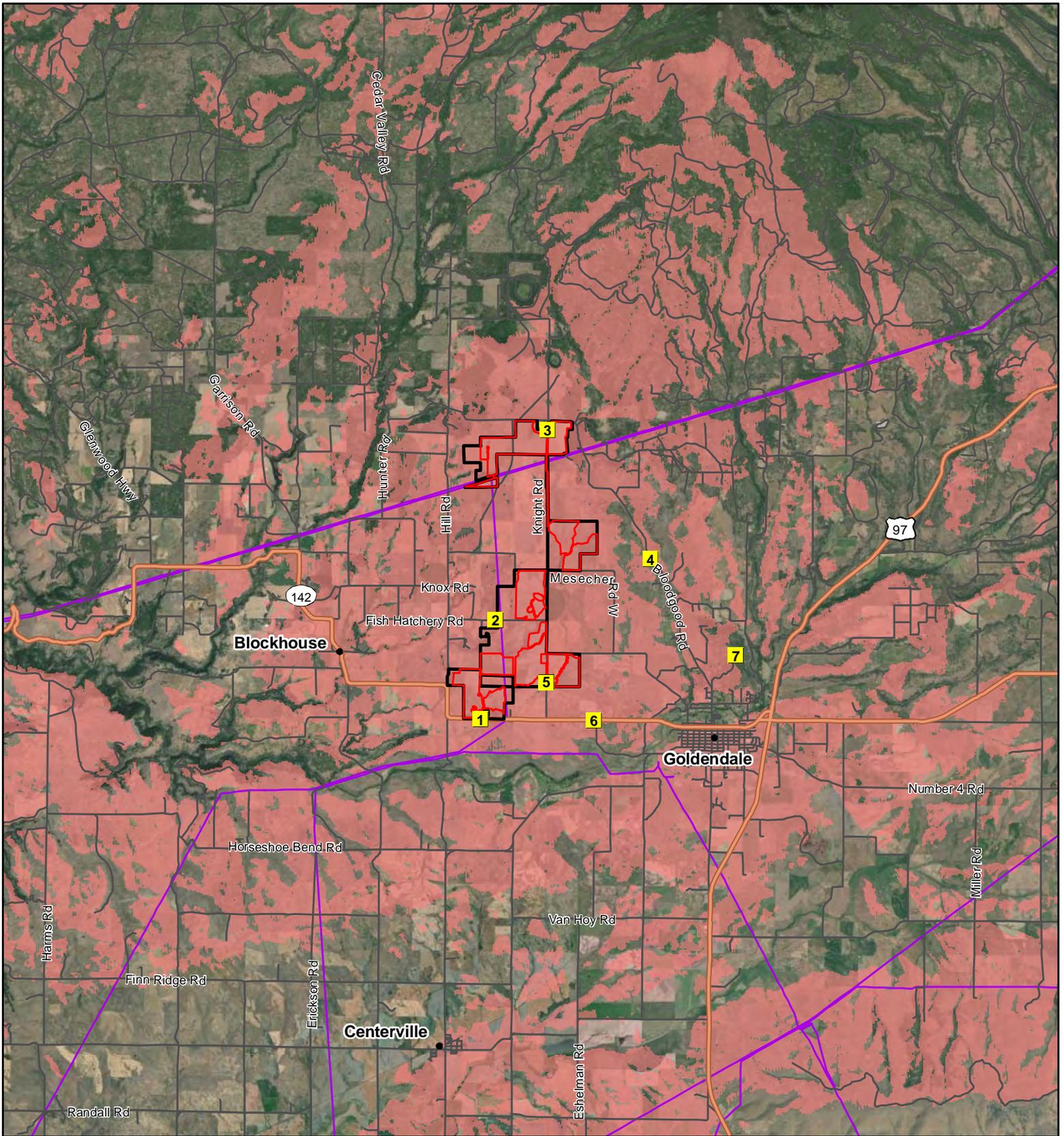


PERMIT DRAWING - NOT RELEASED FOR CONSTRUCTION

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NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION



-  Project Site Control Boundary
-  Maximum Project Extent (MPE)
-  Key Observation Point (KOP)
-  Existing BPA Transmission Line
-  Project Potentially Visible

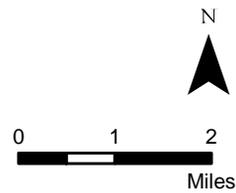
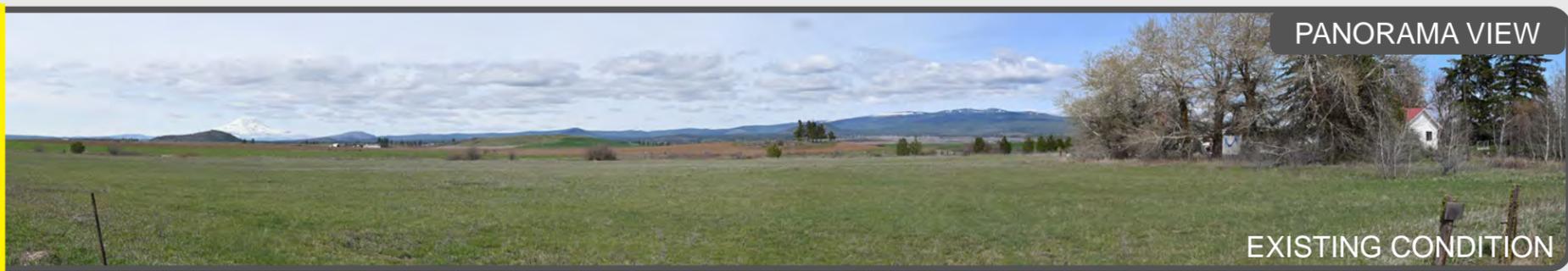


Figure 4
Project Potential Visibility

Prepared for:
Carriger Solar, LLC Project
April 5, 2023



PANORAMA VIEW

EXISTING CONDITION

The photograph above has been cropped to show a wide angle view with the below photograph's area shown in yellow.



SINGLE FRAME VIEW

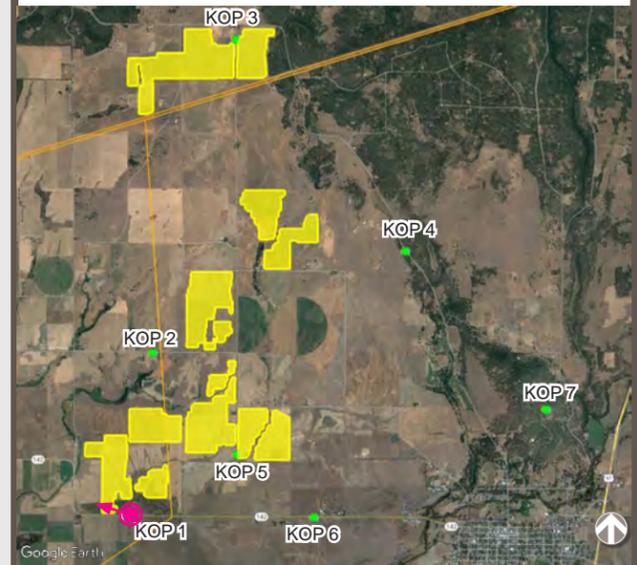
View from State Route 142, looking northwest. Utility lines, fencing and agricultural fields visible in foreground. Agricultural and residential structures visible in middleground. Hilly and mountainous terrain in background.

EXISTING CONDITION

CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 5 KOP 1

EXISTING CONDITIONS
FIELD PHOTO LOG



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

- PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
- MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
- KOP LOCATION
- EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	4:32 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	NORTHWEST
LATITUDE:	45.824435°
LONGITUDE:	-120.895149°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	605 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.



PANORAMA VIEW

EXISTING CONDITION

The photograph above has been cropped to show a wide angle view with the below photograph's area shown in yellow.



SINGLE FRAME VIEW

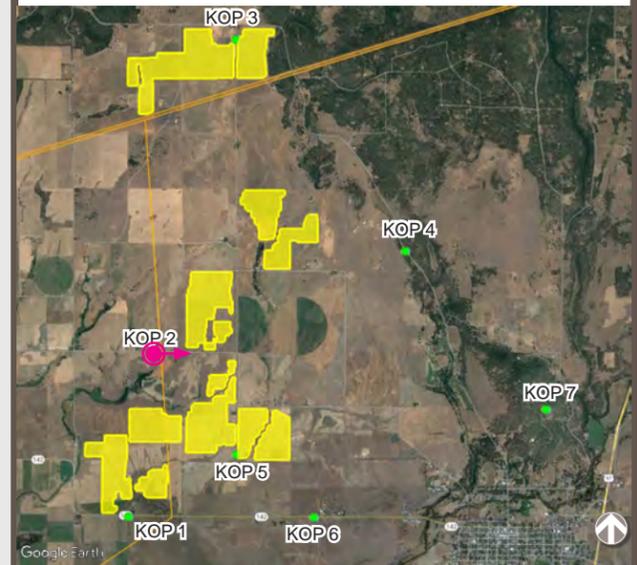
EXISTING CONDITION

View from Fish Hatchery Road, looking east. Existing 500-kV single-circuit BPA Big Eddy-Knight transmission line visible in midforeground. Residential and agricultural structures visible in background on Observatory Hill.

CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 6 KOP 2

EXISTING CONDITIONS
FIELD PHOTO LOG



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

-  PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
-  MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
-  KOP LOCATION
-  EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	4:13 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	EAST
LATITUDE:	45.846266°
LONGITUDE:	-120.890465°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	1,610 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.



PANORAMA VIEW

EXISTING CONDITION

The photograph above has been cropped to show a wide angle view with the below photograph's area shown in yellow.



SINGLE FRAME VIEW

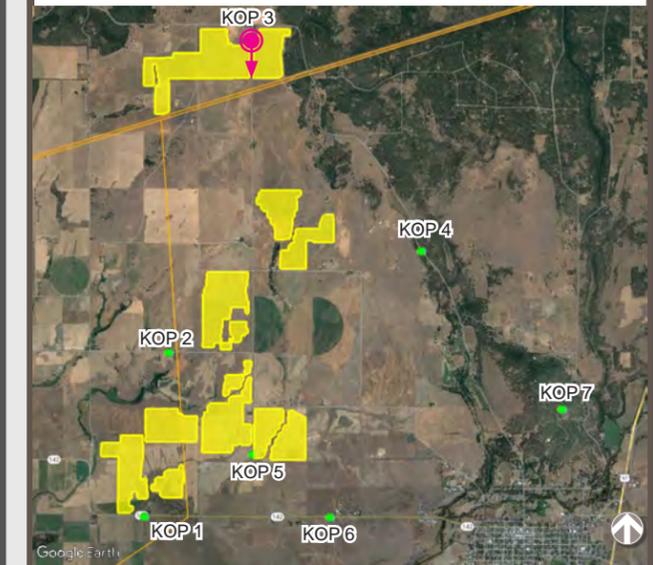
EXISTING CONDITION

View from Knight Road, looking south. Local utility lines, BPA transmission line corridors (230-kV North Bonneville-Midway No. 1 line and 500-kV Wautoma-Ostrander No. 1 line) visible in foreground and middle ground. Residential and agricultural structures, wind turbines, and Columbia Hills visible in background.

CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 7 KOP 3

EXISTING CONDITIONS
FIELD PHOTO LOG



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

- PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
- MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
- KOP LOCATION
- EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	3:41 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	SOUTH
LATITUDE:	45.888040°
LONGITUDE:	-120.874580°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	95 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.



PANORAMA VIEW

EXISTING CONDITION

The photograph above has been cropped to show a wide angle view with the below photograph's area shown in yellow.



SINGLE FRAME VIEW

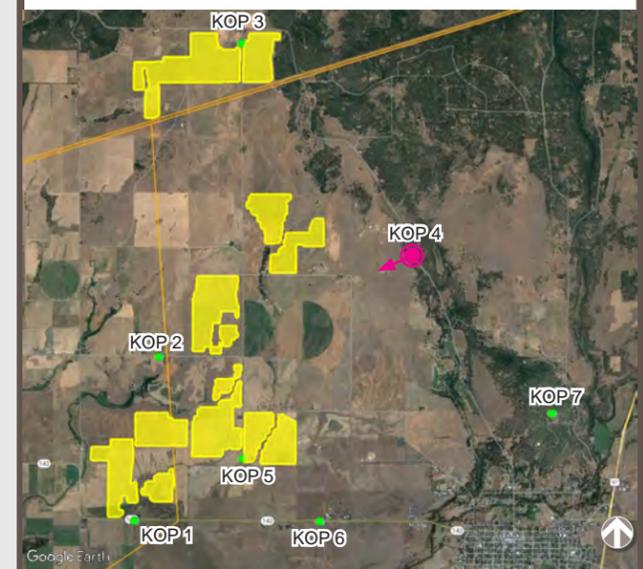
EXISTING CONDITION

View from Pine Forest Road, looking southwest. Agricultural fields, residential and agricultural structures, fences, and local utility lines visible in foreground and middle ground. Existing 500-kV single-circuit BPA Big Eddy-Knight transmission line visible in background. Mt. Hood visible in background (right side of frame).

CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 8 KOP 4

EXISTING CONDITIONS
FIELD PHOTO LOG



VICINITY MAP

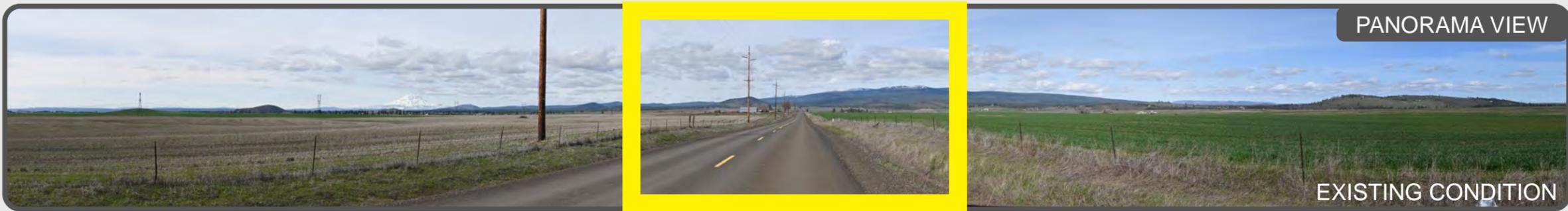
LEGEND

-  PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
-  MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
-  KOP LOCATION
-  EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	5:07 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	SOUTHWEST
LATITUDE:	45.865978°
LONGITUDE:	-120.845658°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	3,595 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.



PANORAMA VIEW

EXISTING CONDITION

The photograph above has been cropped to show a wide angle view with the below photograph's area shown in yellow.



SINGLE FRAME VIEW

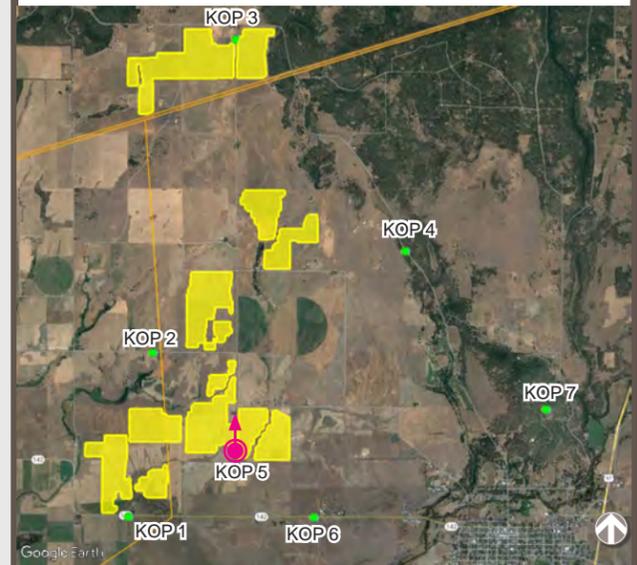
EXISTING CONDITION

View from Knight Road, looking north. Utility lines, fencing, agricultural fields, residential and agricultural structures, visible in foreground and middle ground. Simcoe Mountains visible in background.

CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 9 KOP 5

EXISTING CONDITIONS
FIELD PHOTO LOG



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

- PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
- MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
- KOP LOCATION
- EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	4:38 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	NORTH
LATITUDE:	45.83271°
LONGITUDE:	-120.87443°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	75 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.



PANORAMA VIEW

EXISTING CONDITION

The photograph above has been cropped to show a wide angle view with the below photograph's area shown in yellow.



SINGLE FRAME VIEW

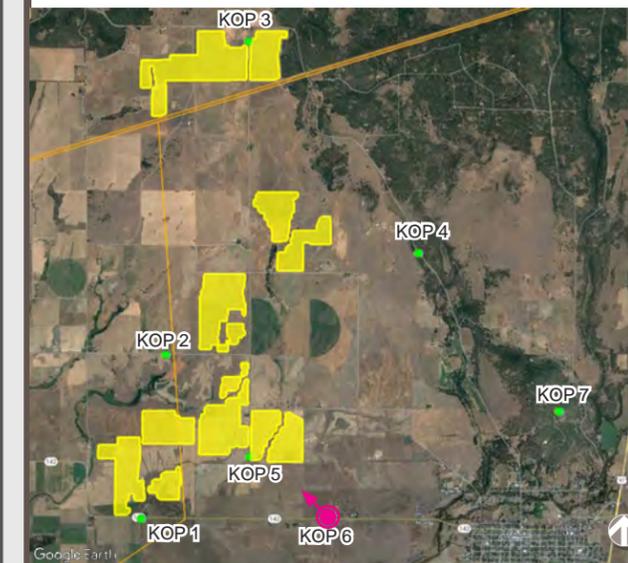
EXISTING CONDITION

View from State Route 142, looking northwest. Agricultural fields and fencing visible in foreground. Utility lines including 500-kV single-circuit BPA Big Eddy-Knight transmission line visible in middleground along with residential and agricultural structures. Mt. Adams visible in background (right side of frame).

CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 10 KOP 6

EXISTING CONDITIONS
FIELD PHOTO LOG



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

-  PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
-  MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
-  KOP LOCATION
-  EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	4:49 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	NORTHWEST
LATITUDE:	45.824371°
LONGITUDE:	-120.859635°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	2,980 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.



PANORAMA VIEW

EXISTING CONDITION

The photograph above has been cropped to show a wide angle view with the below photograph's area shown in yellow.



SINGLE FRAME VIEW

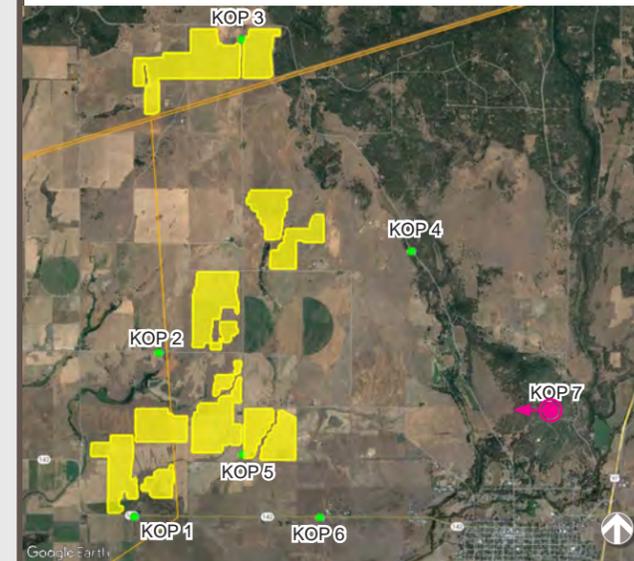
EXISTING CONDITION

View from Goldendale Observatory State Park, looking west. Wooded park land, parking lot and roads in foreground, agricultural lands with existing structures in midleground and background.

CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 11 KOP 7

EXISTING CONDITIONS
FIELD PHOTO LOG



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

-  PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
-  MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
-  KOP LOCATION
-  EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	4:49 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	WEST
LATITUDE:	45.838720°
LONGITUDE:	-120.815185°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	2.38 mi

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.

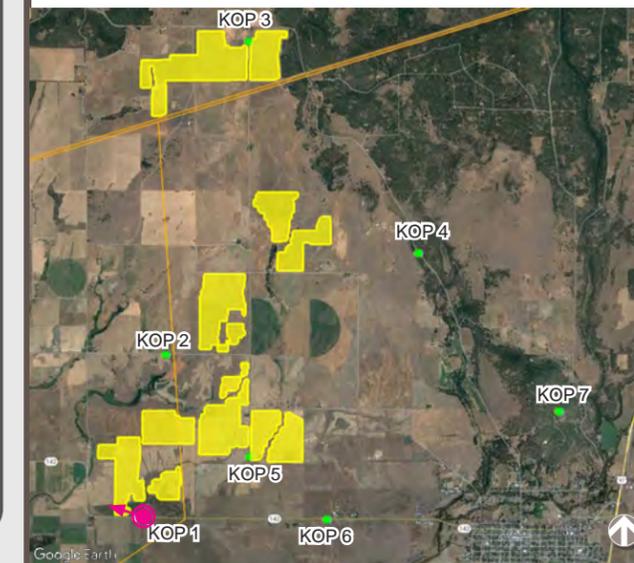
CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 12 KOP 1

PHOTO SIMULATION



EXISTING CONDITION



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

- PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
- MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
- KOP LOCATION
- EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	4:32 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	NORTHWEST
LATITUDE:	45.824435°
LONGITUDE:	-120.895149°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	605 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.



SIMULATED CONDITION

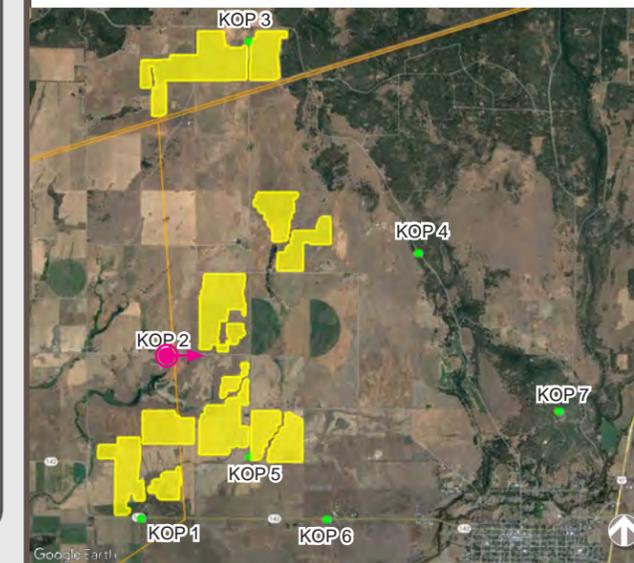
CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 13 KOP 2

PHOTO SIMULATION



EXISTING CONDITION



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

-  PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
-  MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
-  KOP LOCATION
-  EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	4:13 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	EAST
LATITUDE:	45.846266°
LONGITUDE:	-120.890465°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	1,610 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.

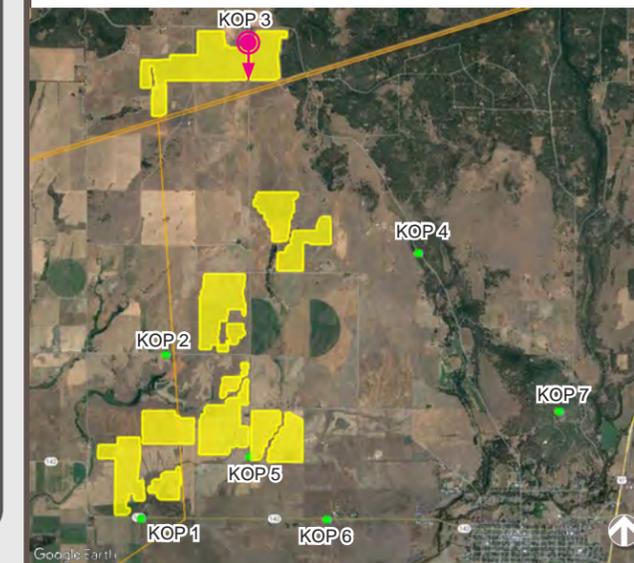


SIMULATED CONDITION

CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 14 KOP 3

PHOTO SIMULATION



VICINITY MAP

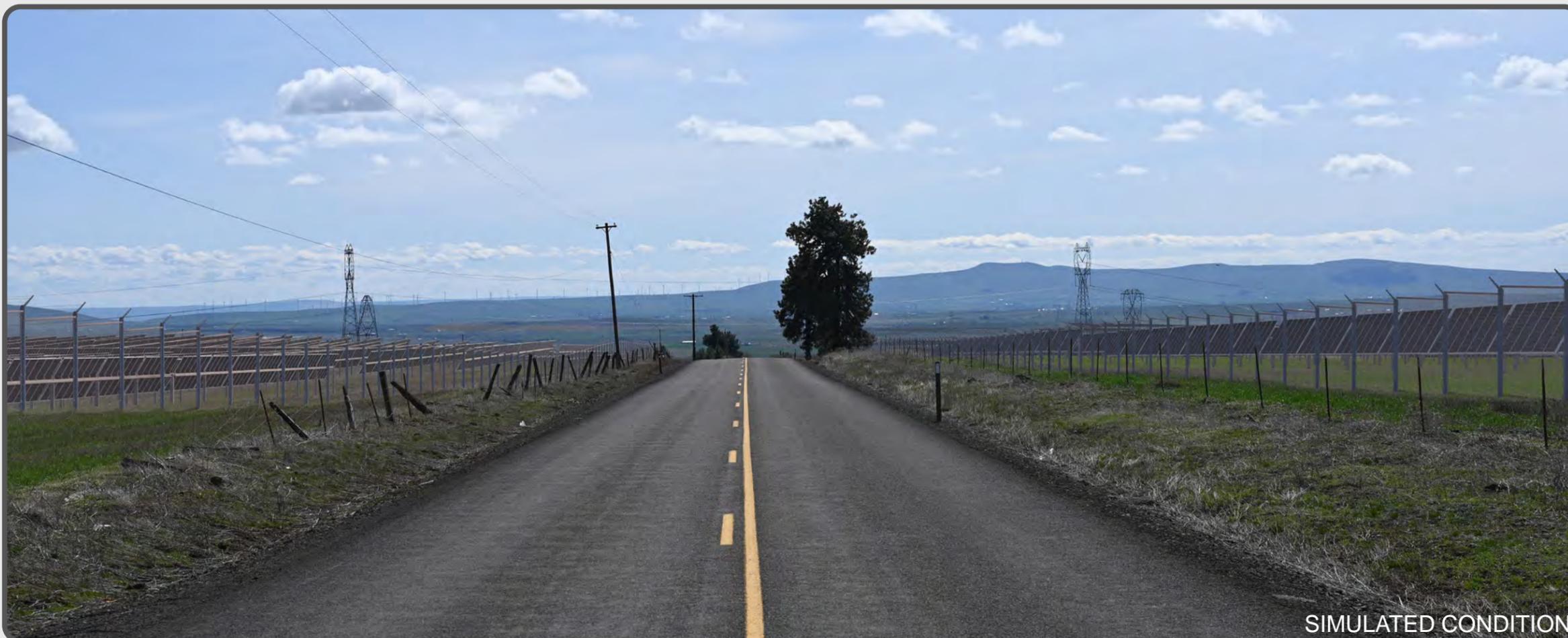
LEGEND

- PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
- MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
- KOP LOCATION
- EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	3:41 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	SOUTH
LATITUDE:	45.888040°
LONGITUDE:	-120.874580°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	95 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.



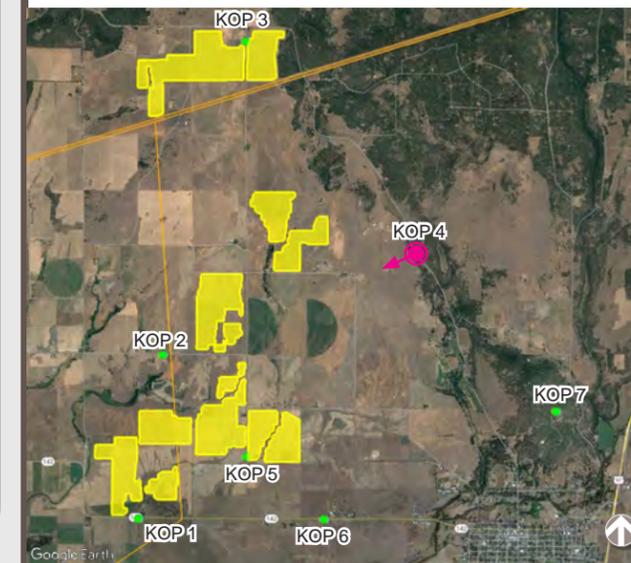
CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 15a
KOP 4

PHOTO SIMULATION



EXISTING CONDITION



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

- PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
- MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
- KOP LOCATION
- EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	5:07 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	SOUTHWEST
LATITUDE:	45.865978°
LONGITUDE:	-120.845658°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	3,595 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.



SIMULATED CONDITION

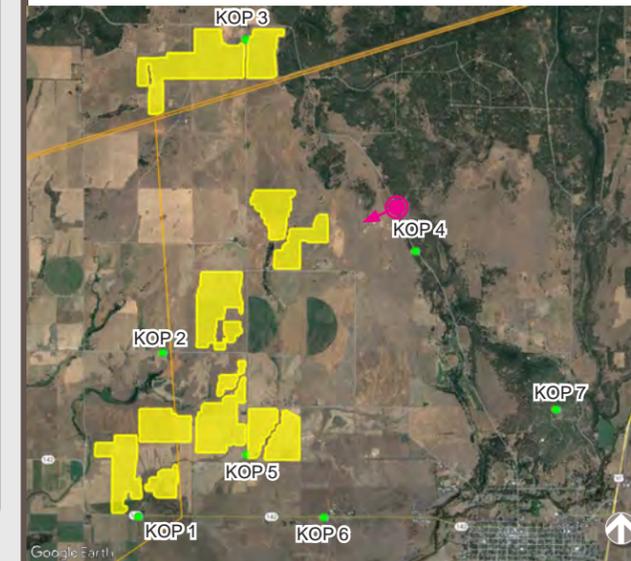
CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 15b KOP 4

PHOTO SIMULATION



EXISTING CONDITION



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

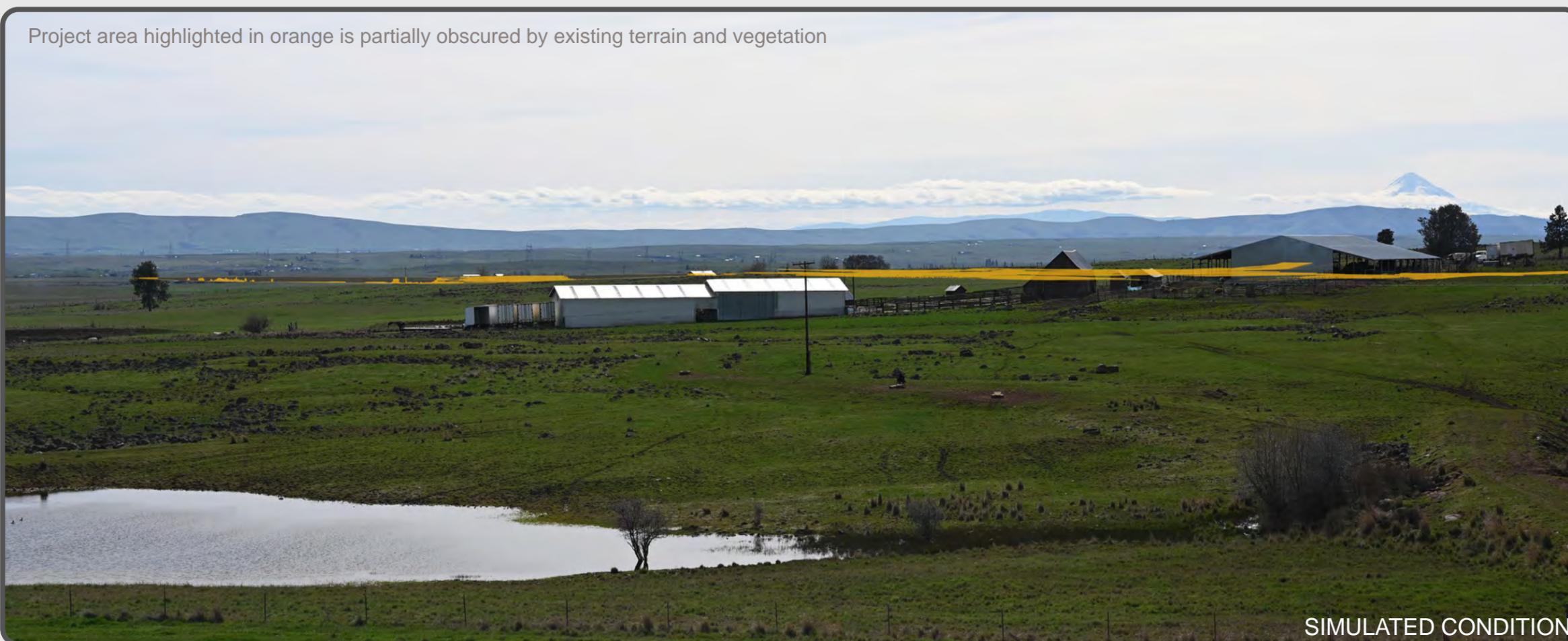
-  PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
-  MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
-  KOP LOCATION
-  EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	5:07 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	SOUTHWEST
LATITUDE:	45.865978°
LONGITUDE:	-120.845658°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	3,595 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.

Project area highlighted in orange is partially obscured by existing terrain and vegetation

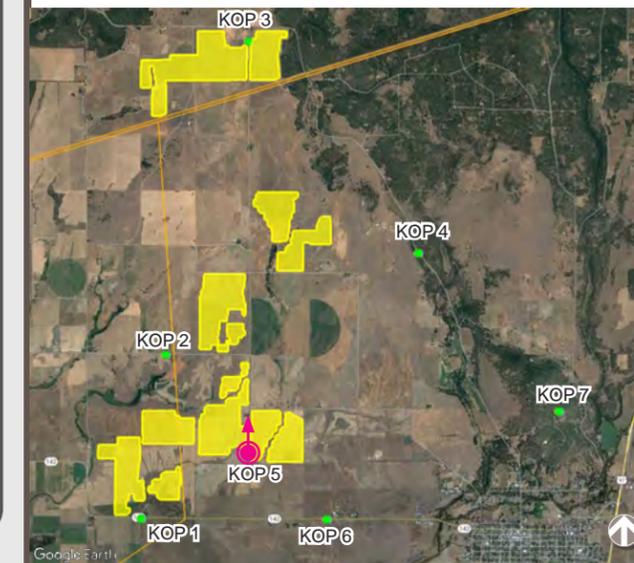


SIMULATED CONDITION

CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 16 KOP 5

PHOTO SIMULATION



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

- PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
- MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
- KOP LOCATION
- EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	4:38 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	NORTH
LATITUDE:	45.83271°
LONGITUDE:	-120.87443°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	75 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.



CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 17 KOP 6

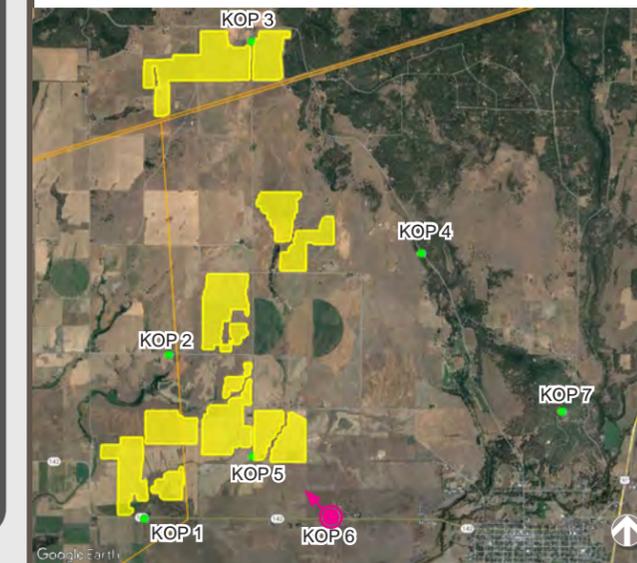
PHOTO SIMULATION



EXISTING CONDITION



SIMULATED CONDITION



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

- PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
- MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
- KOP LOCATION
- EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	4:49 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	NORTHWEST
LATITUDE:	45.824371°
LONGITUDE:	-120.859635°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	2,980 FT

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.

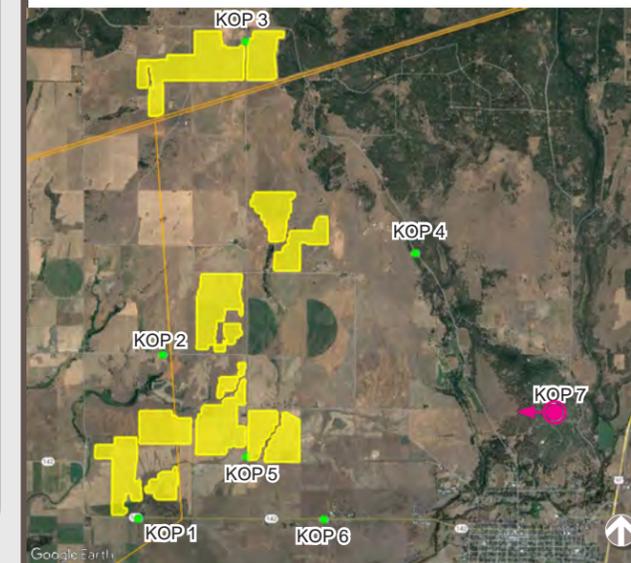
CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 18a KOP 7

PHOTO SIMULATION



EXISTING CONDITION



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

-  PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
-  MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
-  KOP LOCATION
-  EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

TIME:	4:49 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	WEST
LATITUDE:	45.838720°
LONGITUDE:	-120.815185°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	2.38 mi

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.



SIMULATED CONDITION

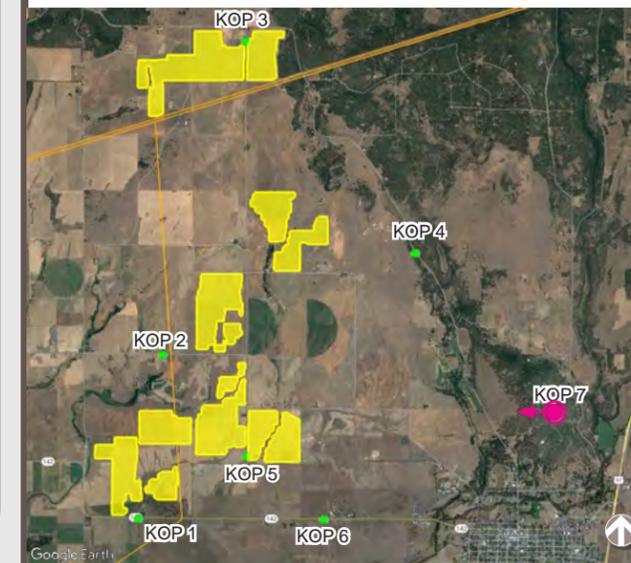
CARRIGER SOLAR LLC PROJECT

FIGURE 18b KOP 7

PHOTO SIMULATION



EXISTING CONDITION



VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

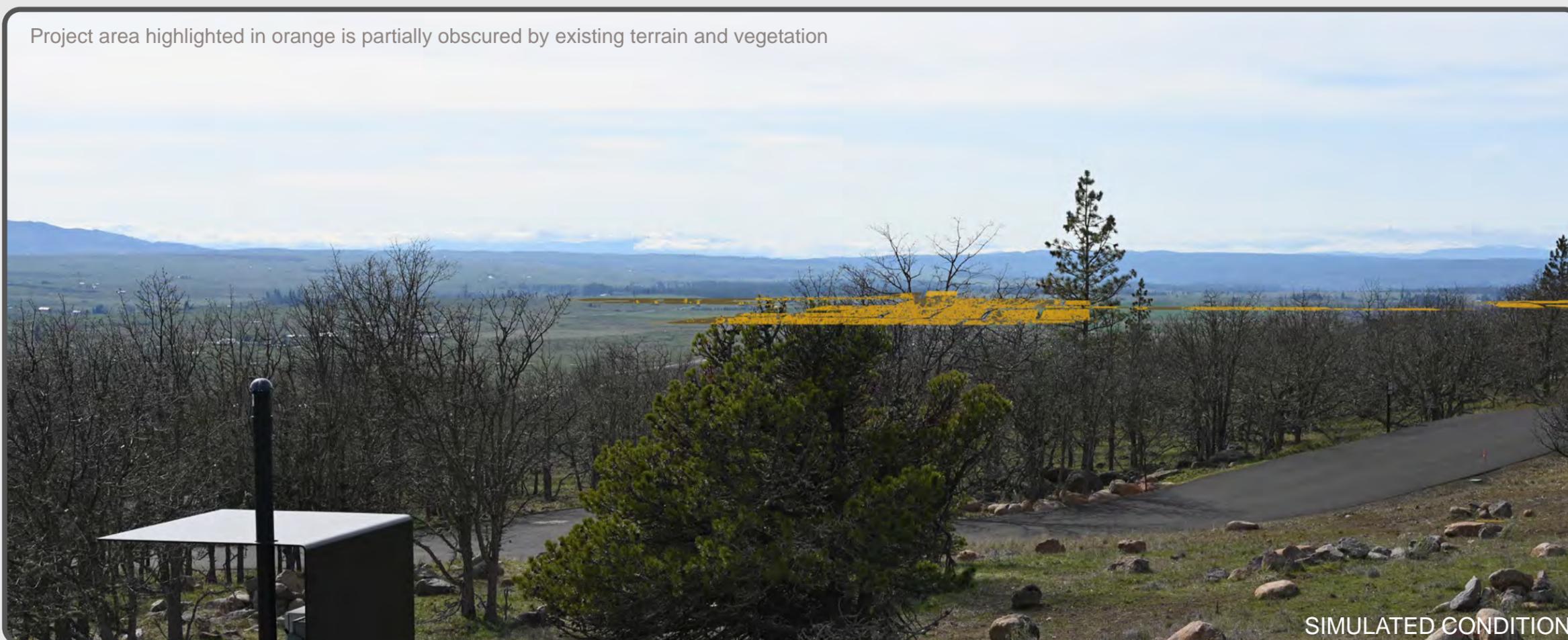
- PHOTO LOCATION / DIRECTION
- MAXIMUM PROJECT EXTENT AREA
- KOP LOCATION
- EXISTING BPA TRANSMISSION LINES

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

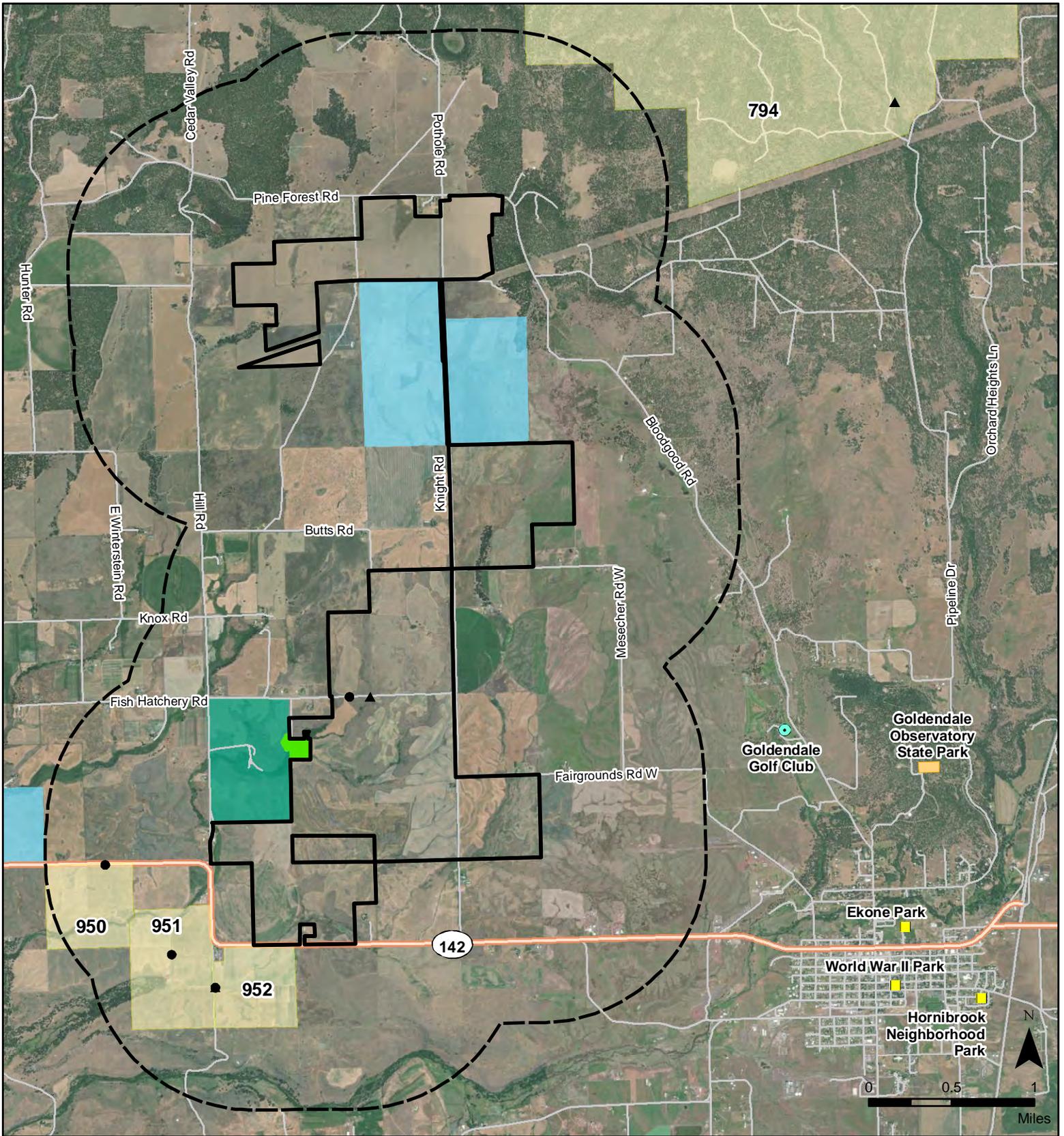
TIME:	4:49 PM
DATE:	3/29/2022
WEATHER CONDITION:	PARTLY CLOUDY
VIEWING DIRECTION:	WEST
LATITUDE:	45.838720°
LONGITUDE:	-120.815185°
DISTANCE FROM PROJECT:	2.38 mi

DISCLAIMER: PRELIMINARY VISUALIZATIONS ARE FOR REFERENCE ONLY; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.

Project area highlighted in orange is partially obscured by existing terrain and vegetation



SIMULATED CONDITION

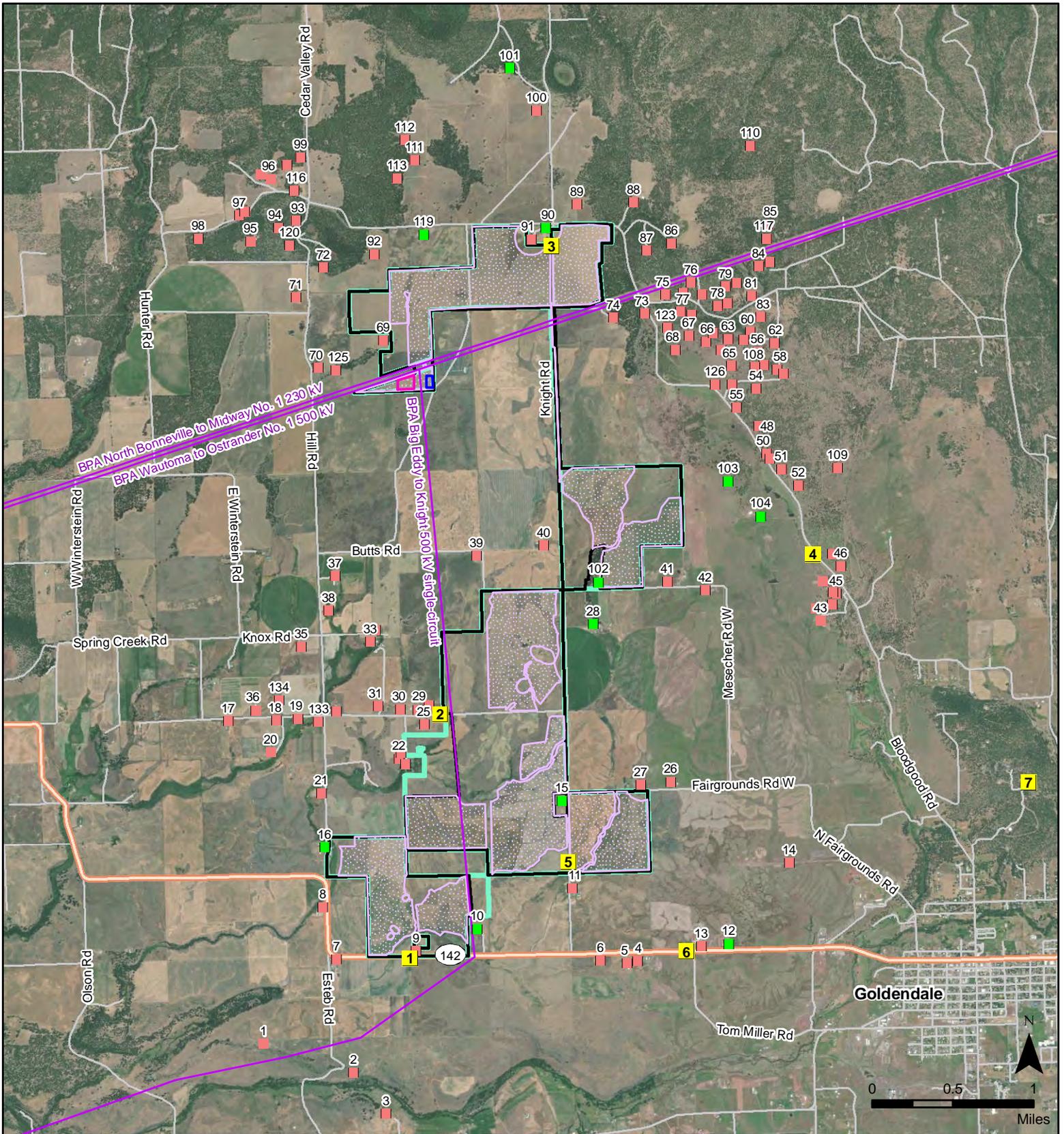


-  Project Site Control Boundary
-  Recreational Opportunities Assessment Area
-  Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
-  Washington Dept. of Natural Resources
-  Goldendale Fish Hatchery
-  WDFW Private Land Hunting Access Program Parcels
-  Hunt Access Point
-  Parking Area Point
-  Golf Course
-  Goldendale City Park
-  State Route
-  Local Road
-  State Park



Figure 19 Recreational Opportunities

Prepared for:
Carriger Solar, LLC Project
April 5, 2023



- Project Site Control Boundary
- Project Study Area
- Maximum Project Extent (MPE)
- BESS
- Substation

- Key Observation Point (KOP)
- Location of Residential Structures
 - Project Participant
 - Non-Project Participant
 - Existing BPA Transmission Line



**Figure 20
Location of
Residential Structures**

Prepared for:
Carriger Solar, LLC Project
April 5, 2023

Attachment A: Visual Contrast Rating Worksheets

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Date March 29, 2022

District N/A

Resource Area N/A

Activity (program) N/A

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name Carriger Solar Project	4. Location Township T4N Range R15E Section S23	5. Location Sketch
2. Key Observation Point 1		
3. VRM Class Unclassified/Not on Federal Land		

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fore: Flat to rolling terrain Back: Hilly to Steep terrain	Grass - regular, low Trees, shrubs - irregular	Roadway - linear, fencing, utility poles and lines - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular
LINE	Fore: Diffuse Back: Silhouette-line	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees, shrubs - complex, irregular	Roadway - horizontal, fencing, utility poles and lines - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular
COLOR	Brown	Grass - green Trees, shrubs - green, brown	Roadway - gray, fencing, utility poles - brown, buildings - white, gray
TEXTURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees - uneven	Roadway - coarse, fencing, utility poles, buildings - medium

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fore: Flat to rolling terrain Back: Hilly to Steep terrain	Grass - regular, low Trees, shrubs - irregular	Roadway - linear, fencing, utility poles and lines - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - angular
LINE	Fore: Diffuse Back: Silhouette-line	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees, shrubs - complex, irregular	Roadway - horizontal, fencing, utility poles and lines - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - vertical, horizontal
COLOR	Brown	Grass - green Trees, shrubs - green, brown	Roadway - gray, fencing, utility poles - brown, buildings - white, gray, Project solar arrays - gray
TEXTURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees - uneven	Roadway - coarse, fencing, utility poles, buildings - medium, Project solar arrays - smooth

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST	FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)				
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)
			✓			✓			✓				
			✓			✓			✓				
		✓			✓			✓					
ELEMENTS	Form											Evaluator's Names	Date
	Line											Jess Taylor	March 29,
	Color											Paula Fell	2022
	Texture												

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Date March 29, 2022

District N/A

Resource Area N/A

Activity (program) N/A

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name Carriger Solar Project	4. Location Township T4N Range R15E Section S11	5. Location Sketch
2. Key Observation Point 2		
3. VRM Class Unclassified/Not on Federal Land		

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Rolling to hilly terrain	Grass - regular, low Trees - irregular	Road, fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular
LINE	Diffuse	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees - complex, irregular	Road - horizontal, fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular
COLOR	Tan	Grass - green Trees - green, brown	Road - tan, transmission towers - gray, fencing, utility poles - brown, buildings - white, gray
TEX-TURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees - uneven	Road - coarse, transmission towers, fencing, utility poles, buildings - medium

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Rolling to hilly terrain	Grass - regular, low Trees - irregular	Road, fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - angular
LINE	Diffuse	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees - complex, irregular	Road - horizontal, fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - vertical, horizontal
COLOR	Tan	Grass - green Trees - green, brown	Road - tan, transmission towers - gray, fencing, utility poles - brown, buildings - white, gray, Project solar arrays - gray
TEX-TURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees - uneven	Road - coarse, transmission towers, fencing, utility poles, buildings - medium, Project solar arrays - smooth

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST	FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)	
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)					
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)	
			✓				✓				✓			
			✓				✓				✓			
		✓				✓				✓				
ELEMENTS	Form												Evaluator's Names	
	Line												Date	
	Color												Jess Taylor	March 29,
	Texture												Paula Fell	2022

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Date March 29, 2022

District N/A

Resource Area N/A

Activity (program) N/A

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name Carriger Solar Project	4. Location Township T5N Range R15E Section S25	5. Location Sketch
2. Key Observation Point 3		
3. VRM Class Unclassified/Not on Federal Land		

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fore: rolling terrain Back: hilly to steep	Grass - regular, low Trees - irregular	Road, fencing, transmission tower and lines, utility poles and lines, wind turbines - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular
LINE	Fore: diffuse Back: silhouette	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees - complex, irregular	Road - horizontal, fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines, wind turbines - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular
COLOR	Brown	Grass - tan, green Trees - green	Road - gray, yellow, fencing, utility poles - brown, transmission towers - gray, wind turbines - white, buildings - white, gray
TEXTURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees - uneven	Road - coarse, fencing, utility poles, transmission towers, wind turbines, buildings - medium

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fore: rolling terrain Back: hilly to steep	Grass - regular, low Trees - irregular	Road, fencing, transmission tower and lines, utility poles and lines, wind turbines - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - angular
LINE	Fore: diffuse Back: silhouette	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees - complex, irregular	Road - horizontal, fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines, wind turbines - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - vertical, horizontal
COLOR	Brown	Grass - tan, green Trees - green	Road - gray, yellow, fencing, utility poles - brown, transmission towers - gray, wind turbines - white, buildings - white, gray, Project solar arrays - gray
TEXTURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees - uneven	Road - coarse, fencing, utility poles, transmission towers, wind turbines, buildings - medium, Project solar arrays - smooth

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST	FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)				
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	
	✓				✓				✓				
	✓				✓				✓				
ELEMENTS	Form												3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)
	Line												
	Color												
	Texture												
												Evaluator's Names	Date
												Jess Taylor Paula Fell	March 29, 2022

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Date March 29, 2022

District N/A

Resource Area N/A

Activity (program) N/A

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name Carriger Solar Project	4. Location Township T4N Range R16E Section S6	5. Location Sketch
2. Key Observation Point 4		
3. VRM Class Unclassified/Not on Federal Land		

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fore: rolling terrain Back: hilly to steep terrain	Grass - regular, low Trees, shrubs - irregular	Fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular
LINE	Fore: diffuse Back: silhouette	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees, shrubs - complex, irregular	Fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular
COLOR	Brown	Grass - green Trees, shrubs - tan, green	Fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles - brown, buildings - white, gray
TEXTURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees, shrubs - uneven	Fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles, buildings - medium

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fore: rolling terrain Back: hilly to steep terrain	Grass - regular, low Trees, shrubs - irregular	Fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - angular
LINE	Fore: diffuse Back: silhouette	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees, shrubs - complex, irregular	Fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - vertical, horizontal
COLOR	Brown	Grass - green Trees, shrubs - tan, green	Fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles - brown, buildings - white, gray, Project solar arrays - gray
TEXTURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees, shrubs - uneven	Fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles, buildings - medium

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST	FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)	
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)					
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)	
			✓				✓				✓			
			✓				✓				✓			
		✓				✓				✓				
ELEMENTS	Form												Evaluator's Names	
	Line												Date	
	Color												Jess Taylor	March 29, 2022
	Texture												Paula Fell	

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Date March 29, 2022

District N/A

Resource Area N/A

Activity (program) N/A

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name Carriger Solar Project	4. Location Township T4N Range R15E Section S13	5. Location Sketch
2. Key Observation Point 5		
3. VRM Class Unclassified/Not on Federal Land		

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fore: rolling to hilly terrain Back: hilly to steep terrain	Grass - regular, low Trees - irregular	Roadway - linear, fencing, utility poles and lines, transmission tower and lines - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular
LINE	Fore: diffuse Back: silhouette	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees - complex, irregular	Roadway - horizontal, fencing, utility poles and lines, transmission tower and lines - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular
COLOR	Brown	Grass - tan, green Trees - green	Roadway, transmission tower and lines - gray, fencing, utility poles - brown, buildings - white, gray
TEX-TURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees - uneven	Roadway - coarse, fencing, utility poles, transmission tower and lines buildings - medium

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fore: rolling to hilly terrain Back: hilly to steep terrain	Grass - regular, low Trees - irregular	Roadway - linear, fencing, utility poles and lines, transmission tower and lines - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - angular
LINE	Fore: diffuse Back: silhouette	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees - complex, irregular	Roadway - horizontal, fencing, utility poles and lines, transmission tower and lines - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - vertical, horizontal
COLOR	Brown	Grass - tan, green Trees - green	Roadway, transmission tower and lines - gray, fencing, utility poles - brown, buildings - white, gray, Project solar arrays - gray
TEX-TURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees - uneven	Roadway - coarse, fencing, utility poles, transmission tower and lines, buildings - medium, Project solar arrays - smooth

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST	FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)	
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)					
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None		
			✓			✓			✓					
ELEMENTS	Form													3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)
	Line													
	Color													
	Texture													
												Evaluator's Names	Date	
												Jess Taylor Paula Fell	March 29, 2022	

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Date March 29, 2022

District N/A

Resource Area N/A

Activity (program) N/A

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name Carriger Solar Project	4. Location Township T4N Range R16E Section S18	5. Location Sketch
2. Key Observation Point 6		
3. VRM Class Unclassified/Not on Federal Land		

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fore: Rolling to hilly terrain Back: hilly to steep terrain	Grass - regular, low Trees - irregular	Roads - linear, Fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular
LINE	Diffuse	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees - complex, irregular	Roads - horizontal, Fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular
COLOR	Brown	Grass - green Trees - green	Transmission towers - gray, fencing, utility poles - brown, buildings - white, gray
TEX-TURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees - uneven	Transmission towers, fencing, utility poles, buildings - medium

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fore: Rolling to hilly terrain Back: hilly to steep terrain	Grass - regular, low Trees - irregular	Roads - linear, Transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - angular
LINE	Diffuse	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees - complex, irregular	Roads - horizontal, Fencing, transmission towers and lines, utility poles and lines - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - vertical, horizontal
COLOR	Brown	Grass - green Trees - green	Transmission towers - gray, fencing, utility poles - brown, buildings - white, gray, Project solar arrays - gray
TEX-TURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees - uneven	Transmission towers, fencing, utility poles, buildings - medium, Project solar arrays - smooth

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST	FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)				
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)
			✓				✓				✓		
			✓				✓				✓		
		✓				✓				✓			
ELEMENTS	Form											Evaluator's Names Jess Taylor Paula Fell	Date March 29, 2022
	Line												
	Color												
	Texture												

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Date March 29, 2022

District N/A

Resource Area N/A

Activity (program) N/A

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name Carriger Solar Project	4. Location Township T4N Range R16E Section S16	5. Location Sketch
2. Key Observation Point 7		
3. VRM Class Unclassified/Not on Federal Land		

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fore: Hilly terrain Back: Flat to steep terrain	Grass - regular, low Trees - irregular	Roads - linear, transmission towers - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular
LINE	Fore: Diffuse Back: Silhouette	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees - complex, irregular	Roads - horizontal, transmission towers - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular
COLOR	Brown	Grass - green Trees - brown, green	Roads - gray, transmission towers - gray, buildings - white, gray
TEXTURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees - uneven	Roads - coarse, transmission towers, buildings - medium

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fore: Hilly terrain Back: Flat to steep terrain	Grass - regular, low Trees - irregular	Roads - linear, transmission towers - angular and linear, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - angular
LINE	Fore: Diffuse Back: Silhouette	Grass - soft, contiguous Trees - complex, irregular	Roads - horizontal, transmission towers - vertical, horizontal, buildings - rectangular, Project solar arrays - vertical, horizontal
COLOR	Brown	Grass - green Trees - brown, green	Roads - gray, transmission towers - gray, buildings - white, gray, Project solar arrays - gray
TEXTURE	Coarse	Grass - fine Trees - uneven	Roads - coarse, transmission towers, buildings - medium, Project solar arrays - smooth

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST	FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)	
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)					
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None		
			✓				✓				✓			
			✓				✓				✓			
ELEMENTS	Form			✓								✓		3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (Explain on reverse side)
	Line			✓								✓		
	Color			✓								✓		
	Texture			✓								✓		
Evaluator's Names												Date		
Jess Taylor Paula Fell												March 29, 2022		