Marys Peak BPA Communications Site Project
Scenic Resource Assessment Report

Prepared By: AECOM

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Prepared for:

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Marys Peak BPA Communications Site Project
Scenic Resource Assessment

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMP	Best Management Practices
BPA	Bonneville Power Administration
CPI	Consumers Power Incorporated
HVAC	Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning
KVA	Key Viewing Area
LRMP	Land and Resource Management Plan
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
Project	Marys Peak Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Communications Site Project
RMP	[Northwestern and Coastal Oregon] Resource Management Plan
SBSIA	Scenic Botanical Special Interest Area
SIO	Scenic Integrity Objective
SMS	Scenery Management System
U.S.	United States
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
VQO	Visual Quality Objective
VRM	Visual Resource Management

1. Introduction

This scenic resource assessment evaluates potential impacts to scenic resources that could result from the Marys Peak and West Point Spur components of the Marys Peak Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Communications Site Project (herein, the Project). The Project is located southwest of the City of Corvallis in Benton County, Oregon, on lands administered by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

This report includes the following information:

- Project Description
- Regulatory and Management Framework
- Analysis Area
- Methodology
- Existing Conditions
- Environmental Consequences
- Cumulative Impacts
- Plan Conformance Determination
- Recommended Mitigation or Avoidance Measures

2. Project Description

BPA's communications equipment is essential for the safety and reliability of its power transmission system. The Project is needed because much of the aging equipment at the Marys Peak BPA communications site cannot be repaired and needs to be replaced or upgraded. The existing Marys Peak BPA communications site is located on USFS-administered land on the summit of Marys Peak, approximately 15 miles southwest of Corvallis in Benton County, Oregon. A portion of the access road crosses BLM-administered lands.

BPA is conducting environmental review of the Project, which includes evaluation of the Project's potential impacts under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Project includes three action alternatives and a no action alternative (Table 2-1). BPA will analyze potential impacts to human and natural resources, including scenic resources, from the four alternatives in the Project NEPA environmental assessment.

Table 2-1. Project Alternatives

Alternative	Name
1	No Action
2A	Marys Peak at Existing BPA Communications Site – BPA Albany Substation
3C	Marys Peak Co-locate with USFS – BPA Albany Substation
4	West Point Spur Co-locate at Existing Consumers Power Incorporated (CPI) Site – BPA Prospect Hill Communications Site

Each action alternative includes two steel-lattice communications sites, between which microwave radio communications pass. For all action alternatives, either Marys Peak or West Point Spur would be one of the communications sites, and the BPA Albany Substation or the BPA Prospect Hill communications site would be the other communications site (Figure 2-1). As such, the Project area includes four geographic components where Project activities could occur: Marys Peak, West Point Spur, the BPA Albany Substation, and the BPA Prospect Hill communications site.

Because the proposed actions at the BPA Prospect Hill communications site would be minimal, no or low scenic resources impacts would be expected to result from Project actions at this location. Consequently, this scenic resource impact assessment does not address that component. Project activities at the Marys Peak, West Point Spur, and Albany Substation components could result in impacts to scenic resources; therefore, these three sites are the focus of this study. The site layouts for the Marys Peak and West Point Spur components are detailed in Figure 2-2. The site layout for Albany substation is limited to the addition of a microwave dish mounted on an existing communication tower. This feature is described in more detail in Section 7.2.

3. Regulatory and Management Framework

This section describes the regulatory and management framework within the analysis area by summarizing land management standards that are applicable to the Project. Anticipated impacts will be evaluated to determine consistency of the Project with these land management standards.

3.1 United States Forest Service

Visual Management System

The USFS manages scenic resources through the Visual Management System established in *The National Forest Management Handbook, Volume 2, Agricultural Handbook 462* (USFS 1974) to inventory, classify, and manage lands for scenic resource values. Scenic resources are managed through Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) designed to provide measurable standards or objectives that direct varying degrees of acceptable change to national forest landscapes (USFS 1974). The range of VQOs is defined in Table 3-1.

In 1995, the USFS scenic resource management guidelines and monitoring techniques evolved into the Scenery Management System (SMS), as described in *Landscape Aesthetics: A Handbook for Scenery Management, Agricultural Handbook* (USFS 1995). Conceptually, the SMS differs from the Visual Management System in that it emphasizes and increases the role of the public throughout the inventory and planning process, and it borrows from and is integrated with the concepts of ecosystem management. Instead of management objectives prescribed as VQOs, they are established as “Scenic Integrity Objectives (SIOs)” (USFS 1995). A crosswalk of VQOs to SIOs is provided in Table 3-1.

Relevant USFS Land and Resource Management Plans

The majority of the Project is located on lands managed per the Marys Peak Scenic Botanical Special Interest Area (SBSIA) Plan (USFS 1989) and the Siuslaw National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) (USFS 1990). Additional information on the interpretation of the SBSIA Plan and LRMP is provided in Section 9, *Plan Conformance Determination*.

Figure 3-1. Marys Peak BPA Communications Site Project Action Alternatives

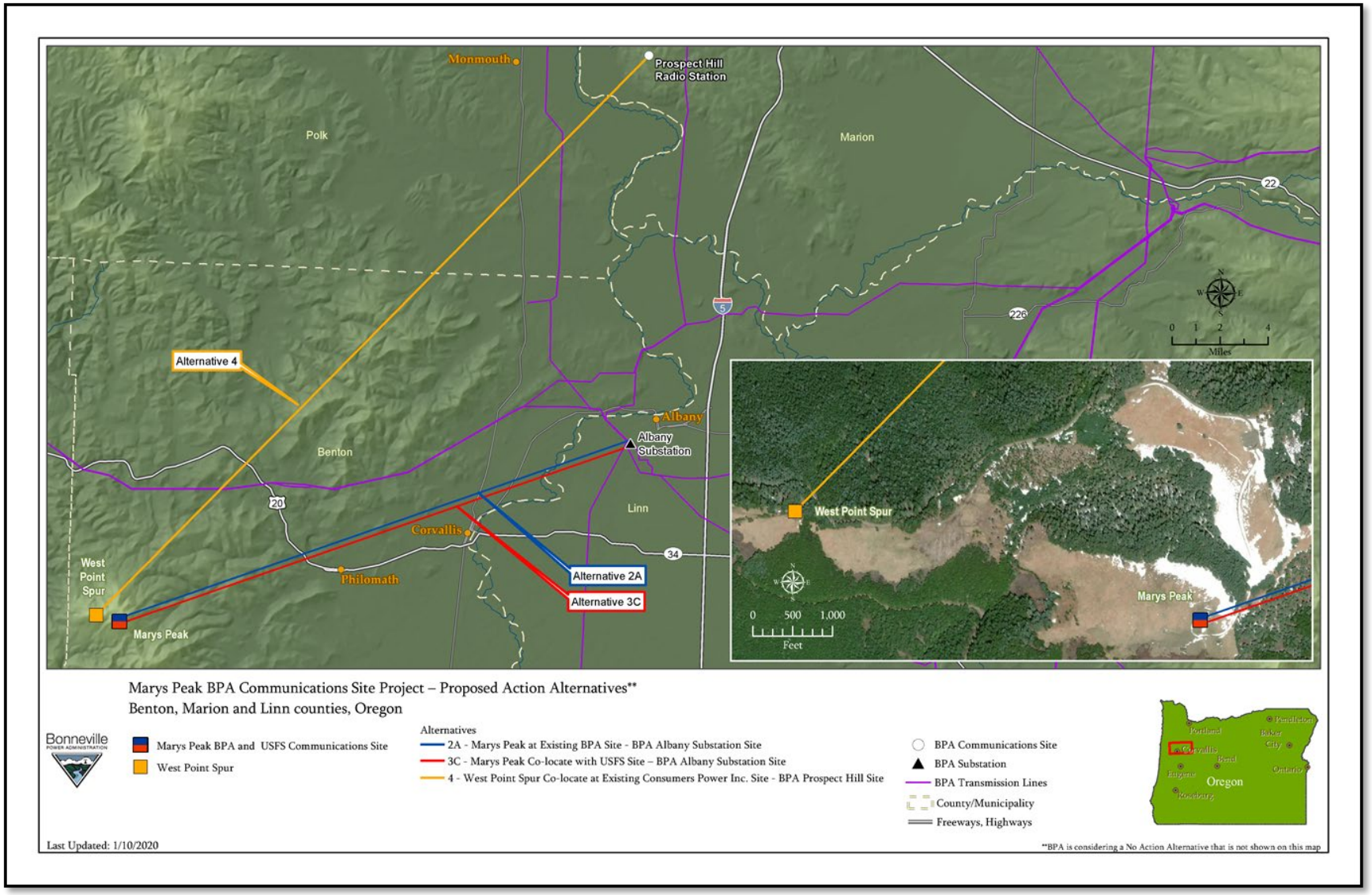


Figure 3-2. Existing Site Layout of the Marys Peak and West Point Spur Communications Sites

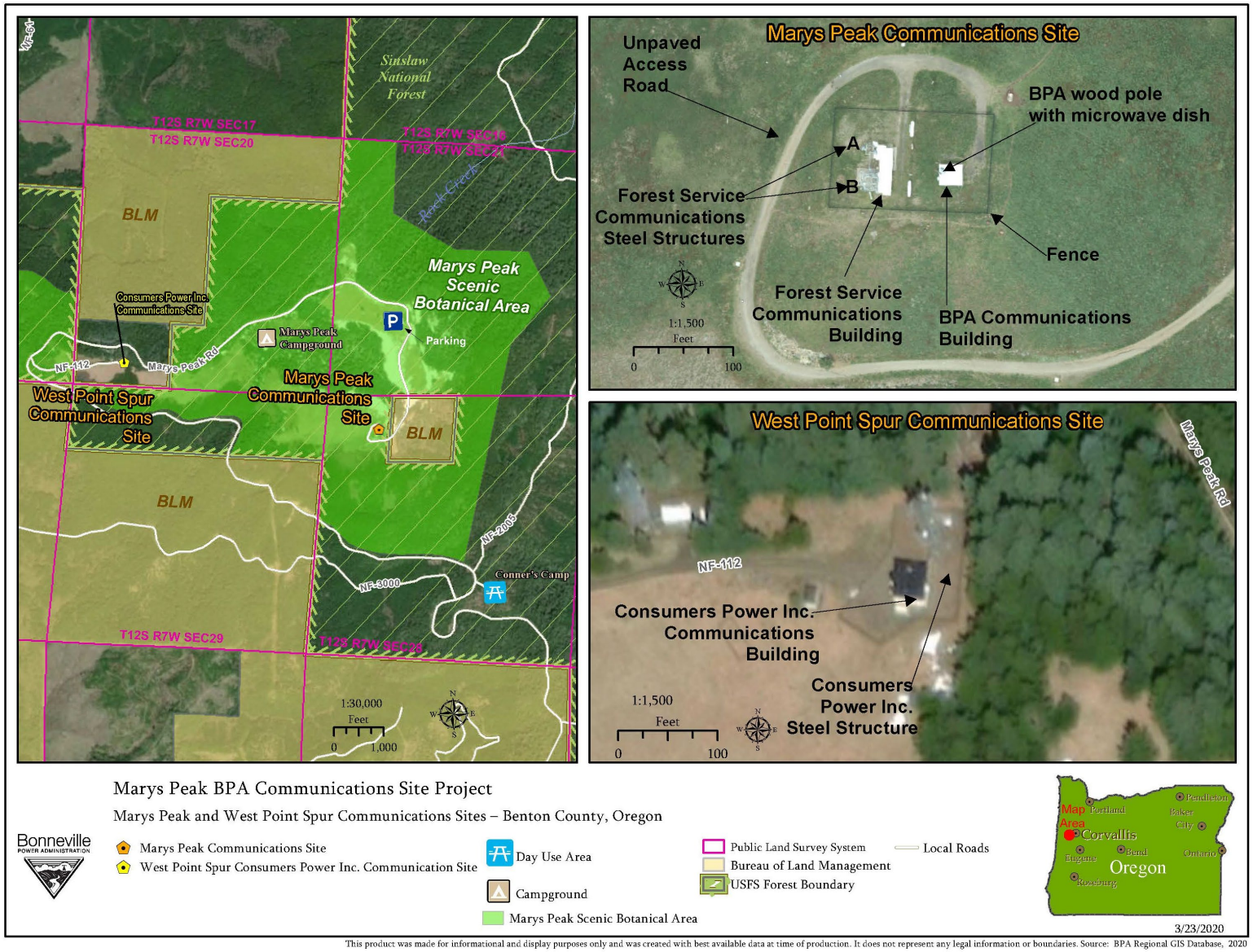


Table 3-1. Visual Quality Objectives and Scenic Integrity Objectives: Classification Definitions and Crosswalk

Visual Quality Objectives (USFS 1974)	Scenic Integrity Objectives (USFS 1995)
Preservation: Allows ecological changes only, and management activities are prohibited except for very low visual impact recreation facilities.	**Very High (Unaltered):** Refers to landscapes where the valued landscape character "is" intact with only minute if any deviations. The existing landscape character and sense of place is expressed at the highest possible level.
Retention: Provides for management activities that are not visually evident, and activities may only repeat form, line color, and texture frequently found in the characteristic landscape; changes in qualities of size, amount, intensity, direction, pattern, etc. should not be evident.	**High (Appears Unaltered):** Refers to landscapes where the valued landscape character "appears" intact. Deviations may be present but must repeat the form, line, color, texture, and pattern common to the landscape character so completely and at such scale that they are not evident.
Partial Retention: Provides for management activities that are not visually evident, and activities may only repeat form, line color, and texture frequently found in the characteristic landscape; changes in qualities of size, amount, intensity, direction, pattern, etc. should not be evident.	**Moderate (Slightly Altered):** Refers to landscapes where the valued landscape character "appears slightly altered." Noticeable deviations must remain visually subordinate to the landscape character being viewed. See section below on meeting integrity levels.
Modification: Management activities may visually dominate the original characteristic landscape but activities of vegetative and landform alteration must borrow from naturally established form, line, color, or texture so completely and at such a scale that visual characteristics are those of natural occurrences within the surrounding area or character type.	**Low (Moderately Altered):** Refers to landscapes where the valued landscape character "appears moderately altered." Deviations begin to dominate the valued landscape character being viewed but they borrow valued attributes such as size, shape, edge effect and pattern of natural openings, vegetative type changes or architectural styles outside the landscape being viewed. They should not only appear as valued character outside the landscape being viewed but compatible or complimentary to the character within.
Maximum Modification: Management activities of vegetative and land alterations may dominate the characteristic landscape. When viewed as background, the visual characteristics must be those of natural occurrences within the surrounding area or character type. When viewed as foreground or middle ground, they may not appear to completely borrow from naturally established form, line, color, or texture. Alterations may also be out of scale or contain detail that is incongruent with natural occurrences as seen in foreground or middle ground.	Not Applicable

Scenery Management System

SBSIA Plan

The Marys Peak SBSIA Plan specifies that, with the exception of facilities needed to provide the desired recreation use and electronics facilities, the Marys Peak SBSIA is managed to meet the VQO of “Retention” (USFS 1989). The plan indicates that through:

> creative design of location, materials, forms, colors, and textures, necessary recreation and electronic facilities will be kept as inconspicuous as possible, and will meet the VQO of retention where practicable, but in no case being more dominant than the VQO of modification. Partial retention-foreground and partial retention-middleground VQOs are applied along the Marys Peak Road. (USFS 1989)

The SBSIA Plan includes additional detail on use of Marys Peak and West Ridge (also known as West Point Spur) for special uses, stating the following:

Special Use Permits may be issued when the activity is compatible with the management goals for the SBSIA. Use of Forest Service land on the summit of Marys Peak for electronic communications will be limited to government and public service agencies. The electronic equipment will be consolidated into a single structure to reduce visual impacts.

Siuslaw National Forest LRMP

The Siuslaw National Forest LRMP (USFS 1990) specifies management of Marys Peak road (viewshed) as Partial Retention-Foreground and Middleground-Modification.

3.2 Bureau of Land Management

Visual Resource Management System

Visual resources on BLM-administered lands are managed per the Visual Resource Management (VRM) System (BLM 1986). The VRM system provides the framework by which to manage visual values by classifying all BLM-administered lands into one of four VRM classes defined as follows:

- **Class I:** The objective of this class is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. This class provides for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activity. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be very low and must not attract attention.
- **Class II:** The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.
- **Class III:** The objective of this class is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.
- **Class IV:** The objective of this class is to provide for management activities which require major modifications of the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape can be high. These management activities may dominate the view and be the major focus of viewer attention. However, every attempt should be made to minimize the impact of these activities through careful location, minimal disturbance, and repeating the basic elements.

Northwestern and Coastal Oregon Resource Management Plan (RMP)

A portion of the proposed Project' access road is located on lands administered by the BLM, managed per the Northwestern and Coastal Oregon RMP (BLM 2016). The RMP specifies BLM-administered lands on Marys Peak (adjacent to the SBSIA) be managed per VRM Class IV.

3.3 City of Corvallis

A portion of the Project is located on West Point Spur, on a 60-acre parcel owned by the City of Corvallis. Management direction for the SBSIA does not cover lands owned by the City of Corvallis; however, the USFS and the City of Corvallis have a Cooperative Agreement to correlate the management of City land with National Forest land near the summit of Marys Peak (USFS 1989). The City retains the responsibility for lease issuance and fee collection for its electronics lessees but confers with the USFS prior to acting on lease applications to avoid management conflicts.

4. Analysis Area

The analysis area for the Marys Peak scenic resource assessment was established as a 15-mile buffer surrounding each of the Marys Peak and West Point Spur sites. This area is inclusive of varied landscape character types and sensitive viewer groups (constituents) that could be impacted by the Project and is sufficient in size to demonstrate decreasing perceptibility of Project features as distance increases.

4.1 Seen Area Analysis

A seen area analysis was used to determine potential Project visibility based on the relationship between topography, height of the proposed steel-lattice communications structures, and average eye height of the viewer. The analysis was limited to a 15-mile radius as that is the distance at which the existing and proposed communications structures would introduce weak to no visual contrast. The resulting seen area maps were used to assess visibility of the Project from common and sensitive viewer locations and to better understand viewer experience across the analysis area. For example, roadway travelers may experience intermittent views of the Project where it is screened by topography or vegetation and more prolonged views where views are unobstructed. Seen area maps are provided in Appendix A.

Four bare-earth (not considering influence of vegetation) seen area models were developed based on an assumed eye level of 5.6 feet and the height of the communications structure as specified for each alternative (excluding VHF whip antenna). The bare-earth analysis was used to demonstrate a conservative measure of potential visibility; actual visibility is reduced at Marys Peak due to screening by the dense forest vegetation. Communications structure heights were specified as follows:

- Marys Peak/Co-locate with USFS (Alternative 3C): 60 feet
- West Point Spur Co-locate with Consumers Power Incorporated (CPI; Alternative 4): 80 feet

A bare-earth viewshed model was not developed for the Albany Substation because of the extent of the buildings and other infrastructure between the communications structure and viewers in many locations. Instead, the extent of potential visibility of the proposed microwave dish was assessed through a field visit during which it was determined that views of the communications structure at Albany substation are generally precluded by structures and/or vegetation beyond 3 miles.

4.2 Key Viewing Areas

Key Viewing Areas (KVAs) were established to represent common or sensitive views within the analysis area. The KVAs primarily represented areas where existing or proposed communications structures could be seen. However, KVAs were also established where the structures were screened by vegetation and/or topography; these areas provided for a more comprehensive understanding of the overall area of potential impact within the surrounding landscape. The KVAs were used to systematically assess potential impacts to landscape character and scenic integrity that could result from the Project. The KVAs used in this analysis are provided in Table 4-1. A map of KVA locations is provided in Appendix B.

Table 4-1. Key Viewing Areas

KVA Number	Location
1	Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout
2	Marys Peak Campground (Site Number 2)
3	Parking Area at Marys Peak Road
4	City of Philomath
5	Wren Hill
6	Summit Trail (Lower Portion)
7	Marys Peak Access Road (View Directed West)
8	Meadowedge Trail (Lower Portion)
9	Marys Peak Summit (Picnic Table)
10	Highway 20 (near Elmaker State Park)
11	Community of Harlan
12	Marys Peak Summit and Meadowedge Trail Intersection
13	Meadowedge Trail (Upper Portion)
14	Orchard Lane (for Albany Substation)
15	West Albany High School (for Albany Substation)
16	Southwest Liberty Street (for Albany Substation)

5. Methodology

The scenic resources impact analysis prepared for the Project followed procedures established in the SMS (USFS 1995). The impact assessment will inform the plan conformance determination, which will address consistency of the Project with applicable VQOs.

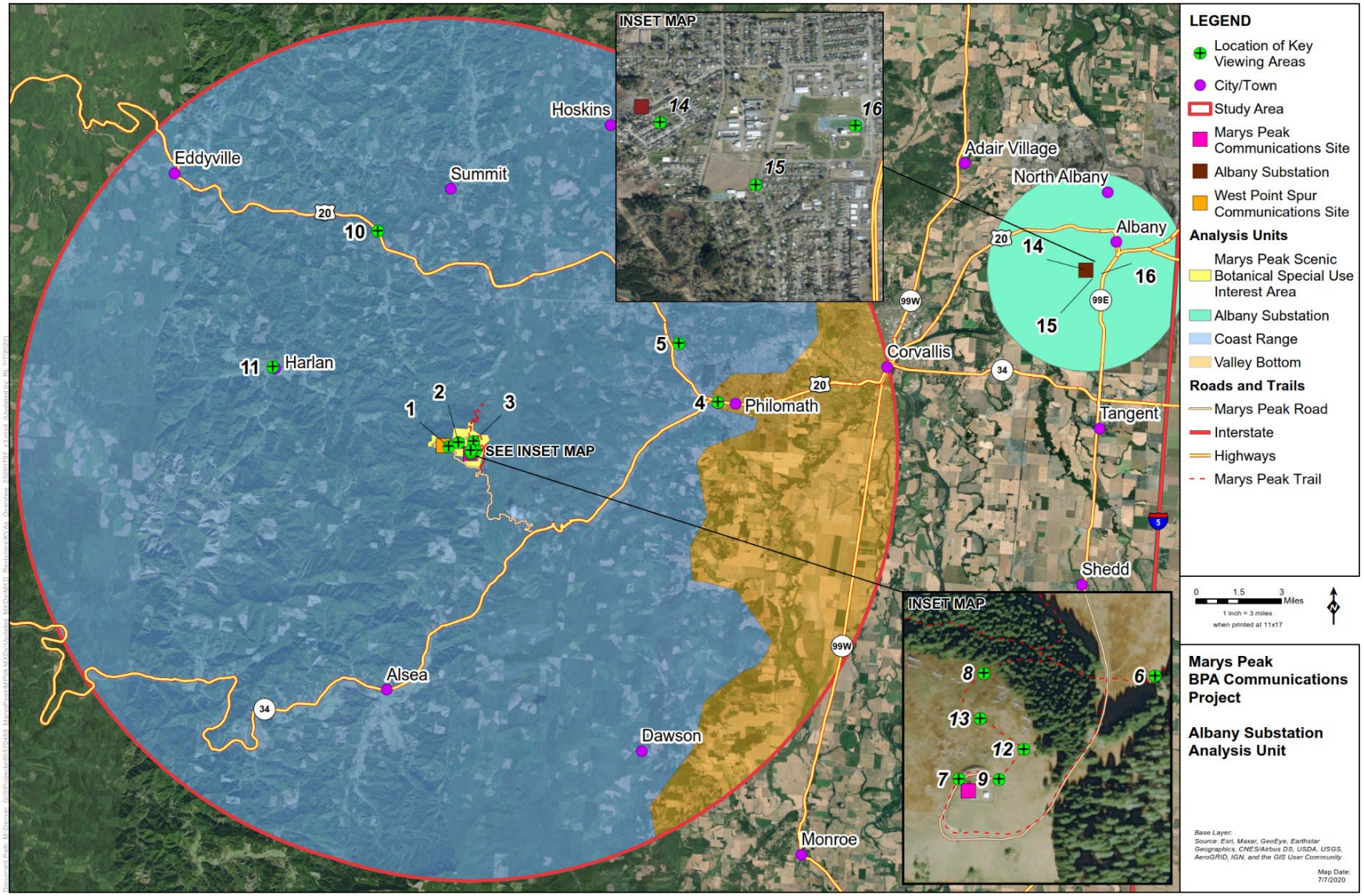
5.1 Baseline Inventory

Existing conditions were documented by first dividing the analysis area into four analysis units based on prevailing topography/landform, vegetation, water forms, level of development, and management framework: (1) Marys Peak SBSIA, (2) Valley Bottom Agricultural Lands and Residential Communities, (3) Terrestrial Conifer Forest Lands, Oak Savanna, and Upland Meadows, and (4) Albany Substation (Figure 5-1). KVAs were established within each analysis unit, and data on the following attributes were collected. When describing the distance of a KVA relative to a Project site, the following conventions were used: Immediate Foreground (0 to 300 feet); Foreground (300 feet to 0.5 mile); Middleground (0.5 mile to 4 miles); and Background (4 miles to horizon).

5.1.1 Landscape Character

Landscape character elements were described in terms of existing form, line, color, and texture, with consideration of landscape factors (principles) such as contrast, sequence, axis, convergence, co-dominance, scale, and enframement (i.e., framing of landscape) (USFS 1995; BLM 1986).

Figure 5-1. Analysis Units



5.1.2 Scenic Integrity

Scenic integrity refers to the degree to which a landscape is free from visible disturbances that detract from the natural or socially valued appearance (i.e., valued landscape character) and is evaluated by measuring the degree of alteration in line, form, color, and texture from natural or natural appearing landscape character (USFS 1995). Existing scenic integrity was evaluated to determine if applicable VQOs (or SIOs) are being achieved under current conditions. Scenic integrity was classified per USFS (1995) (see Table 3-1).

5.1.3 Constituent Information and Concern Level

Constituent information describes the importance of scenic quality and aesthetic experience to viewer groups within the analysis area (concern level). Constituent information was assessed using existing information, such as Project scoping comments and relevant planning documents and general assumptions regarding the level of expected viewer sensitivity based on viewer type. Based on this assessment, concern levels were classified as high, medium, or low depending on the viewer's concern for change in the visual environment (i.e., landscape character or scenic integrity). It was assumed that viewer concern for change in scenic quality within the SBSIA is high.

5.1.4 Viewer Context

Viewer context describes the predominant activity the viewer is engaged in, how that activity influences how they experience the landscape, and the viewer geometry. Viewer geometry refers to the spatial relationship of viewer to the viewed object (i.e., the Project), including both the vertical and horizontal angles of view. The vertical angle of view refers to the viewer's elevation relative to the viewed object. For example, a person standing on a lower elevation access road would be described as having an inferior viewing angle relative to an object on top of a hillside. A person viewing that same facility from a similar elevation as the facility would have a vertical viewing angle that was "at grade" or "level." A view is considered superior when the viewer is at an elevated viewpoint relative to the object being viewed. The horizontal angle of view refers to the compass direction of the view from the viewer to the object. The viewing position set directly in front of the object will be at 0 degrees (for example), the oblique position at 45 degrees, and right angle at 90 degrees. Horizontal viewer geometry is described as direct, oblique, or a right angle.

5.2 Environmental Consequences

Potential impacts to scenic resources within the analysis area that could result from Project alternatives were evaluated based on the expected level of visual contrast and scale dominance. These metrics were used to inform the overall determination of impact to landscape character and scenic integrity.

5.2.1 Visual Contrast

Visual contrast is described as the extent to which a project appears different from the surrounding visual environment. It is measured using the four basic design elements of form, line, color, and texture (BLM 1986). This analysis provides one metric for evaluating and characterizing the level of visual change to the characteristic landscape that could result from a proposed project and how that change would be perceived at KVAs.

With consideration of the visibility factors described above, visual contrast was assessed by comparing visual elements (form, line, color, and texture) of the existing natural characteristic (and other built environment features) landscape with the elements of the proposed Project. Visual simulations support this analysis by providing graphical depictions of the Project under operational conditions.

The visual contrast that would result from the Project alternatives was classified as follows:

- **None:** The element contrast is not visible or perceived.
- **Weak:** The element 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, will not be overlooked, and is dominant in the landscape.

5.2.2 Landscape Character and Scenic Integrity Impacts

The results of the visual contrast analysis informed the assessment of expected change in landscape character and scenic integrity that could result from the Project. Table 5-1 summarizes the criteria used to measure change. Note that potential change in landscape character was measured against the existing baseline. A summary determination of overall change was provided to indicate the extent to which the proposed Project under varied action alternatives resulted in altering the existing character.

Table 5-1. Criteria to Measure Change in Scenic Integrity and Landscape Character

	Scenic Integrity					
Landscape Character	**Very High**	**High**	**Moderate**	**Low**	**Very Low**	**Unacceptably Low**
Dominance Landscape Character vs. Deviation	Landscape Character	Landscape Character	Landscape Character	Deviation	Deviation	Deviation
Degree of Deviation from the Landscape Character	None	Not Evident	Evident but not Dominant	Dominant	Very Dominant	Extremely Dominant
Intactness of the Landscape Character	Landscape Character Fully Expressed	Landscape Character Largely Expressed	Slightly Altered and Character Expression Moderate	Altered and Low Expression of Character	Heavily Altered and Very Low Expression of Character	Extremely Altered

Source: USFS 1995

5.3 Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts were determined by reviewing the lists of planned projects by Benton County (Benton County 2018) and the Siuslaw National Forest (USFS 2018) where they overlap with the analysis area. Planned projects were assessed to determine if anticipated visual attributes of those projects would contribute to potential change in landscape character within the analysis area. Potential additive impacts of the Project and past actions (including construction and operation of communications facilities and access roads) were summarized, and an overall determination of the proposed Project's contribution to cumulative impacts was provided.

5.4 Plan Conformance Determination

The VQOs establish minimum acceptable thresholds for landscape alterations. The threshold of effects is considered exceeded if alterations do not meet the scenic integrity and dominance criteria of the VQO.

Marys Peak SBSIA is managed to meet the VQO of "Retention," with "necessary recreation and electronic facilities…kept as inconspicuous as possible…meet[ing] the VQO of retention where practicable, but in no case being more dominant than the VQO of modification. Partial retention-foreground and partial retention-middleground VQOs are applied along the Marys Peak Road" (USFS 1989). The Siuslaw National Forest LRMP (USFS 1990) also specifies management of Marys Peak Road Corridor/viewshed as Partial Retention-Foreground and Modification-Middleground.

On BLM-administered lands, minimum acceptable change is managed per VRM Objectives. The Project is located on lands managed per VRM Class IV objectives, allowing for "major modification of the existing landscape character that minimizes visual impacts to the extent possible."

5.5 Recommended Visual Mitigation and Best Management Practices

Communications facilities have vertical stature and forms and can include materials that tend to contrast with natural landscape settings. Siting of facilities to best fit in the Marys Peak landscape is explored and assessed through the Project alternatives. To meet the Siuslaw National Forest LRMP goal for scenery for Marys Peak, design criteria (mitigation) would be included with each action alternative to help the structures of the electronic site fit with the landscape and be more subordinate within the setting, as practicable, while functioning well for their purpose. Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be incorporated to reduce construction-related impacts that could temporarily impact scenic resources.

6. Existing Conditions

Existing conditions are described below by Analysis Unit and KVA.

6.1 Analysis Unit 1: Marys Peak Scenic Botanical Special Interest Area

6.1.1 Landscape Description

Marys Peak SBSIA is located at the northern end of the Central Oregon Coast mountain range within the Pacific Coast Ranges physiographic region. Measuring 4,097 feet, Marys Peak is the highest mountain in the Coast Range and a prominent landform in the central Willamette Valley (Hays et al. 2012). The area is natural appearing, consistent with vegetation communities found within the Coast Range, with more unique species present at higher elevations. The area is characterized by multiple vegetation types, including noble fir forest, Douglas fir forest, riparian, grassland, and rock outcrop with wildflowers. The approximately 130 acres of grass meadow on the summit knob of Marys Peak appears prominent as it contrasts with the surrounding dense conifer forests and provides opportunity for noteworthy wildflower viewing. The open meadows of Marys Peak provide for expansive views that extend to foreground-middleground distance zones and toward the Pacific Ocean to the west and Cascade Mountains to the east. Marys Peak SBSIA also holds cultural importance as a landscape to Native people and to the town of Corvallis. Important aspects include the historic Civilian Conservation Corps features, including the access road, former fire tower, waterfall sites, select viewpoints, stone wall character along the road, trail networks, and meadow and alpine gardens. Overall scenic integrity at Marys Peak is Moderate-High. Although discordant elements exist, the landscape appears intact and imparts a level of naturalness that is unique within the surrounding area.

6.1.2 Viewer Groups and Concern Level

Viewers associated with Marys Peak SBSIA include recreators and tourists, educational groups, residents, and roadway travelers. Viewers engage in hiking, camping, wildflower viewing, and experiencing panoramic views of the Willamette Valley, Cascade Mountain Range, and the Coast Mountain Range. On clear days, views extend to the Pacific Ocean in the vicinity of Newport, Oregon. Concern from these constituent groups for potential change to the visual condition is considered high,

based on the activities these viewers engage in and the designation of the area as an SBSIA. Scoping comments collected by BPA further indicate interest in retaining and improving the scenic integrity of Marys Peak for recreation, research, spiritual experience, and conservation interests, while also protecting the biodiversity of the area and meeting the visual objectives described within the Marys Peak SBSIA Plan (Appendix C).

As descibed in the KVAs below, landscape character at Marys Peak varies from natural evolving to cultural, depending on viewer position within the Marys Peak SBSIA and exposure to the communications facilities. This variability in character and quality of the landscape is a defining attribute of the Marys Peak SBSIA and a primary driver for varied viewer experiences that include the natural landscape, expansive panoramic views from the summit, and site-specific industrial development.

6.1.3 Key Viewing Areas

KVAs located within Analysis Area 1, Marys Peak SBSIA, include KVA 1 (Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout), KVA 2 (Marys Peak Campground [Site Number 2]), KVA 3 (Parking Area at Marys Peak Road), KVA 6 (Summit Trail [Lower Portion]), KVA 7 (Marys Peak Access Road [View Directed West]), KVA 8 (Meadowedge Trail [Lower Portion], KVA 9 (Marys Peak Summit [Picnic Table], KVA 12 (Marys Peak Summit and Meadowedge Trail Intersection), and KVA 13 (Meadowedge Trail [Upper Portion]). Photographs documenting existing conditions at each KVA are provided in Appendix D.

KVA 1: Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout

KVA 1 is located on Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout. The view is directed east toward Marys Peak (Figure 6-1).

Figure 6-1. Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout (KVA 1)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** The landscape at this KVA is characterized by an upland meadow, sloping to the south, bordered by mixed conifer forests in the foreground. There are scattered conifers between the viewer and the grass-covered top of Marys Peak. The landform is characterized by a moderate to steep slope, with little variation or breaks in topography. In the summer months, the meadow is characterized by short field grass, wildflowers, and scattered conifers. Vegetation appears green to tan in color, with scattered clusters of wildflowers. The flat top and rounded landform of Marys Peak create a discrete, rounded skyline.
- **Scenic Integrity:** From KVA 1, views to the summit are unobstructed. Existing USFS communications structures appear grey and silver in color and smooth in texture, with distinct vertical lines that contrast with the coarser textures and colors of the meadow. Auxiliary facilities are shorter in stature and appear broad in form and white in color. The fence line that surrounds the facility is evident but is not a dominant feature. The existing USFS communications structures are silhouetted (skylined) against the sky. The landscape character is natural appearing. The

USFS structures and associated infrastructure are evident, making them co-dominant to the natural features of the landscape (see Appendix D). Scenic integrity appears Low-Moderate as a result of the existing communications structures and associated facilities, which are co-dominant with the valued landscape character.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Vertical viewer geometry relative to Marys Peak is inferior. Horizontal viewer geometry is oblique to direct. Because the majority of Marys Peak Road travels through dense forest, Saddle Meadow Pullout provides the first opportunity for visitors to experience a view of Marys Peak. The pullout allows viewers to stop and engage in prolonged views of the West Meadow and Marys Peak.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** Viewer groups at KVA 1 are assumed to be recreators and educational groups. Concern level is assumed to be high.

KVA 2: Marys Peak Campground (Site Number 2)

This KVA is located at Marys Peak Campground (Site Number 2). Viewer position at this KVA is inferior to Marys Peak (Figure 6-2)

Figure 6-2. Marys Peak Campground (Site Number 2) (KVA 2)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** The landscape is characterized by a dense, even-age coniferous forest stand. The landscape appears uniform and enclosed as a result of the conifers, with views limited to immediate foreground. The topography is characterized by a shallow slope that is juxtaposed against the steeper slopes of Marys Peak.
- **Scenic Integrity:** From this viewer position, the campground facility is apparent, including access road, designated camping areas, and a small vault toilet. Collectively, these facilities introduce curvilinear lines (campground road) and geometric forms (signposts and restroom) that appear subordinate to the surrounding landscape. The USFS lattice communications structures on Marys Peak are visible through the trees from Campsite 2 (see Appendix D). From this vantage point, the existing structure appears silhouetted, though subordinate to the dense forest in the foreground and middleground.

  The scenic integrity of the landscape is Moderate. The campsite facility and access road are evident but remain visually subordinate to the surrounding forest. The existing USFS structures can be seen through the dense forest canopy from limited locales within the campground but are not focal to the view.

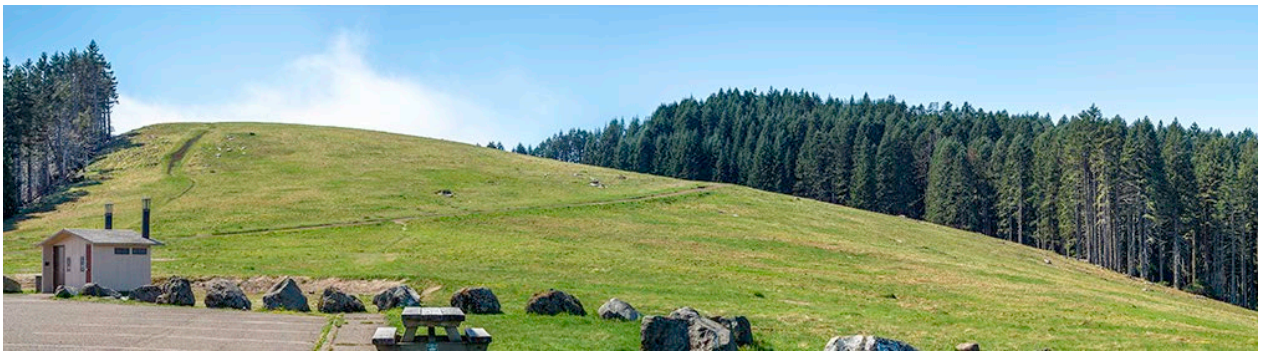
Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Vertical viewer geometry of the KVA at Marys Peak Campground is inferior relative to Marys Peak, and this landform is not visible from most of the campground. Horizontal viewer geometry varies depending on activity and position within the campground. Viewers at this location are expected to interact more with their immediate surroundings, as views extending beyond the immediate foreground are largely precluded by dense forest.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** Primary viewer groups at this location are recreators engaged in camping. Viewer concern is considered high, as recreators are assumed to be seeking a high level of naturalness in their surroundings.

KVA 3: Parking Area at Marys Peak Road

KVA 3 is located at the west edge of Marys Peak parking area. The view is directed southwest toward Marys Peak (Figure 6-3).

Figure 6-3. Parking Area at Marys Peak Road (KVA 3)



Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** The landscape at KVA 3 is characterized by the juxtaposition of a broad sloping meadow, enclosed by surrounding conifer forest and the broad panorama of the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountains. The meadow and Marys Peak appear as rounded hilltop forms that appear consistent and orderly. The summit of Marys Peak is screened by dense conifer forest vegetation (see Appendix D).

  The landscape features at Marys Peak, as viewed to the southwest from the KVA, are dominated by the natural tan and green colors and coarse textures of the meadow and forest vegetation and rounded landforms. Built environment features, such as the access road and recreation facilities, are evident, but do not dominate the landscape.

  Views from Marys Peak to the east include a more built-environment landscape, with development of cities and towns evident in the Willamette Valley.

- **Scenic Integrity:** For views directed southwest from the KVA, scenic integrity is High. Though recreation facilities (including vault toilet, interpretive kiosk, and trailheads) are evident, the landscape character of Marys Peak appears natural. The parking lot is broad and rectilinear, with grey asphalt appearing rough in texture. The recreation facilities appear geometric, but small in scale, such that the straight lines and smooth texture remain subordinate to the surrounding landscape.

  From this vantage point, the top portion of the existing USFS communications structure is seen above the forest stand and is apparent in the skyline.

For views directed to the east, scenic integrity is also considered High. Though built environment features and agricultural areas are evident, they appear consistent with the landscape character of the Willamette Valley and do not detract from the broader panorama of the Cascade Mountains.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Vertical viewer geometry of the KVA is inferior relative to the Marys Peak summit and existing communications infrastructure. Viewers at this location are expected to engage in prolonged views across the Willamette Valley to the east and more intermittent views of Marys Peak, depending on the trail system they use. Horizontal viewer geometry is expected to be variable.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** Viewer concern at KVA 3 is considered high. The parking lot and associated viewpoint provide the first opportunity for visitors to experience views from Marys Peak and serve as a gateway for their recreation experience on Marys Peak.

KVA 6: Summit Trail (Lower Portion)

KVA 6 is located east of Marys Peak on the Summit Trail, the trail segment leading from the parking lot to the Marys Peak summit (Figure 6-4).

Figure 6-4. Summit Trail (Lower Portion) (KVA 6)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** The landscape character of KVA 6 is characterized by the green and brown colors of the sloping meadow hillside to the west and north and the adjacent conifer forest. The surrounding forest frames the landscape, creating a sense of enclosure (see Appendix D).
- **Scenic Integrity:** Scenic integrity is High. The access road and associated cut slope are evident; however, the characteristic landscape appears natural. The unpaved access road and recreational trails to Marys Peak are evident but do not detract from the natural appearance of the landscape. The existing USFS communications structures at the Marys Peak summit are screened by existing forested vegetation and are not visible from this viewpoint on the trail.

Perceptual Factors

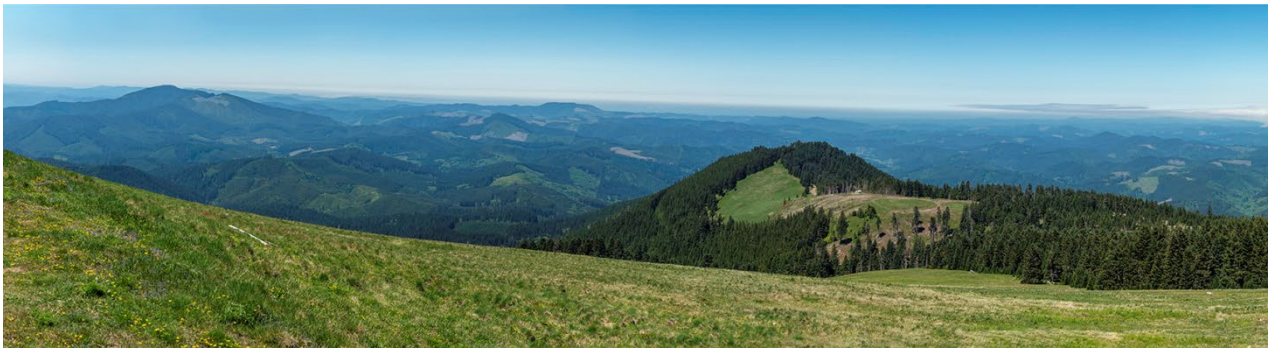
- **Viewer Context:** The viewer experience on the Marys Peak trail system is dynamic, as visitors pass through open meadows and dense forest, with views ranging from enclosed to panoramic. Relative to Marys Peak, vertical viewer geometry is inferior and horizontal viewer geometry is variable. Views of Marys Peak are intermittent and primarily experienced from an inferior viewer position until the trails reach the summit. Viewers may experience more prolonged views at vistas along the trails.

- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** The primary viewer group represented by KVA 6 is recreators using the trail system at Marys Peak SBSIA. Viewer concern is considered high, as it is assumed these individuals are seeking a recreational experience in a natural environment.

KVA 7: Marys Peak Access Road (View Directed West)

KVA 7 is located along the access road immediately west of the existing Marys Peak communications site at the top of Marys Peak. The view is directed west across the West Point Spur communications site to the Pacific Ocean (Figure 6-5). For the viewer standing with views directed to the west, communications facilities would be situated behind the viewer.

Figure 6-5. Marys Peak Access Road (View directed West) (KVA 7)



Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** The landscape at KVA 7 is characterized by the sloping, open meadows of the foreground and middleground and the expansive western panoramic views to the Pacific Ocean (see Appendix D). These two components of the landscape character are co-dominant when viewed from Marys Peak.

  The foreground and middleground appear as steep, grassy meadows sloping downward to the west and bordered by dense conifer forest. Vegetation is green to brown with some wildflowers, and coarse in texture.

  Panoramic views of the Coast Range provide context to the landscape features visible in the foreground-middleground, as a pattern of open meadows, timber harvest, and dense forest scattered across a rugged mountainous landscape. Views extend across the jagged ridgelines to the Pacific Ocean, evident as a continuous horizon line.

  Though evidence of modification exists, both in the form of ground scarring in the foreground and timber harvest in the background, these deviations appear subordinate to the broader landscape character of the Coast Range.

- **Scenic Integrity:** For views to the west, scenic integrity is considered Low-Moderate. Landscape character appears natural; however, deviations such as the ground scarring, existing CPI communications structures, and timber harvest are at a minimum co-dominant. One small building and its access road are visible at the clearing downslope from the KVA. The existing communications structures associated with West Point Spur are apparent, as their tall, vertical forms extend above the tree line. The grey color and smooth texture of the structures contrast with the regular texture and green color of the conifers. Within the Marys Peak summit (view to the east from this location), scenic integrity is considered Very Low.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Vertical viewer position is direct and superior relative to the West Point Spur site. Views from this location are assumed to be prolonged. Vertical viewer position relative to the Marys Peak site is inferior.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** Viewer concern at KVA 7 is considered high. Viewers can experience the unique panoramic views to the west, including the Pacific Ocean. Access to this type of viewer experience is considered rare.

KVA 8: Meadowedge Trail (Lower Portion)

The KVA is located on the Meadowedge Trail within the West Meadow (Figure 6-6).

Figure 6-6. Meadowedge Trail (Lower Portion) (KVA 8)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character Attributes:** The Meadowedge Trail is representative of the visual experience at Marys Peak, as one passes through dense forest and open meadows (see Appendix D). At KVA 8, the Meadowedge Trail crosses the steeply sloping West Meadow below Marys Peak. Landscape character from this location is dominated by the steep, sloping hillsides of West Meadow. The brown color and soft texture of the exposed dirt of the trail contrasts with the green color and regular tufted texture of the meadow, creating a distinct irregular line leading to the summit. The forest creates a discrete edge to the meadow where the vertical structure of the coniferous trees meets the meadow vegetation.
- **Scenic Integrity:** Scenic integrity is Moderate. The CPI lattice communications structures located at West Point Spur are visible from the Meadowedge Trail, rising above the conifer forest, against the western horizon. The top portion of one existing USFS communications structure on Marys Peak is silhouetted against the rounded horizon of the Marys Peak summit. The USFS structure visually contrasts with the rounded topography, green and brown colors, and coarse textures of the Marys Peak landscape at a Weak level. The landscape appears slightly altered due to the existing communications facilities at both sites; however, these features are subordinate to the natural character of the landscape, depending on your location on the trail.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Vertical viewer position is inferior relative to Marys Peak, and at grade or superior relative to West Point Spur, depending on the location of the viewer on the trail. Likewise, horizontal viewer geometry is variable. Viewer experience on the Meadowedge Trail is considered prolonged, as views would be sustained as recreators ascend or descend across the meadow.

- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** Viewer concern at KVA 8 is considered high. Viewers are using this trail system to access the unobstructed panoramic views to the west and are assumed to expect a natural appearing landscape to dominate this viewer experience.

KVA 9: Marys Peak Summit (Picnic Table)

This site is located at the summit of Marys Peak outside the northeast corner of the communications site Figure 6-7).

Figure 6-7. Marys Peak Summit (Picnic Table) (KVA 9)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** KVA 9 is characterized by the 360-degree panoramic view of the surrounding landscape. The landform is characterized by the flat and grassy top of Marys Peak in the foreground, which slopes moderately downward on all sides. To the east, a narrow trail crosses the meadow, drawing foreground/middleground views to the edge of the conifer forest. On a clear day, background views extend across a mosaic of forest, timber harvest, agriculture, and built-environment settings out to the Pacific Ocean. To the east, the Willamette Valley stretches out to the Cascade Range (see Appendix D).
- **Scenic Integrity:** The existing USFS communications structures and associated buildings and BPA communications facilities (monopole and small lattice structure) are a dominant feature at this location. Collectively, these features make up the communications site. The site appears industrial, with the tall lattice USFS communications structures and buildings surrounded by a chain-linked fence equipped with barbed wire. The USFS and BPA components appear spread out and lack order. The components introduce geometric forms, vertical horizontal lines, and smooth textures that contrast with the softer lines, green colors, and coarse textures of the surrounding landscape. Views to the west from KVA 9 are partially obstructed by the components of the site, with the backdrop extending across the Coast Range to the Pacific Ocean. This unique and distinctive panoramic view is a key element of the Marys Peak summit. The scenic integrity at this KVA is Very Low, as the industrial appearance of the communications structures dominates the landscape character.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Viewers are situated adjacent to the existing facility at Marys Peak and at a superior viewer position relative to West Point Spur. Horizontal viewer geometry is variable, including direct, oblique, and right angle. Views from this location are assumed to be prolonged.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** Primary viewers include recreators, hikers, parasailers, educational groups, and individuals seeking spiritual renewal. Viewer concern at this location is considered high. Though current viewers may be accustomed to the communications facility, a high sensitivity to existing discordance and potential change in the viewer experience is assumed.

KVA 12: Marys Peak Summit Trail and Meadowedge Trail Intersection

KVA 12 is located at the intersection of Summit Trail and Meadowedge Trail. The KVA is located where Summit Trail emerges from the forest and continues through the meadow to the summit, and the Meadowedge Trail leads into the forest down the open meadow to the west (Figure 6-8).

Figure 6-8. Marys Peak Summit Trail and Meadowedge Trail Intersection (KVA 12)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character Attributes:** KVA 12 represents the viewer experience at the intersection of the Summit and Meadowedge Trails as the Meadowedge Trail approaches the Marys Peak summit. The landscape character is dominated by the grassy meadow/hillside, communications structures, and broad horizon of the Coast Range and Pacific Ocean (see Appendix D). The exposed dirt of the trail contrasts with the surrounding green meadow, creating a distinct line and directional line leading to the facility. The hillside/meadow is covered in a course-textured yellow and green grass in spring and summer, which turns to browns and yellows in the fall and winter when not covered in snow. The stippled-coarse conifer forest of West Point Spur is visible in the middleground to the west. Beyond West Point Spur, the panoramic view extends west across a smooth patchwork of timber harvest and forest to the Pacific Ocean and straight horizon line.
- **Scenic Integrity:** Scenic integrity is Low. The existing USFS communications structure disrupts the smooth arc of the Marys Peak summit, appearing discordant. The smooth texture and rounded form of the dishes attract attention; collectively, communications structures dominate the landscape character in the foreground to middleground (see Appendix D). Upon approach to the summit, existing USFS communications structures are focal, unobstructed, and silhouetted against the panoramic backdrop of the Coast Range. Landscape character is considered cultural, due to the facility in the foreground.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Vertical viewer geometry relative to Marys Peak is inferior. From this location, visitors hike along the access trail out of the forest to approach Marys Peak with a direct view. When emerging out of the forest from the trail, Marys Peak is directly in front of the viewer and dominates the experience.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** Primary viewers include recreators, hikers, parasailers, educational groups, and individuals seeking spiritual renewal. Viewer concern at this location is considered high due to the unique panoramas of the Coast Range and the Pacific Ocean.

KVA 13: Meadowedge Trail (Upper Portion)

KVA 13 is located on the upper portion of the Meadowedge Trail, immediately below Marys Peak and west of the existing communications site. This KVA provides a representation of landscape character similar to that of KVA 7; however, the location is in closer proximity to the West Point Spur site and is associated with a recreational trail (Figure 6-9).

Figure 6-9. Meadowedge Trail (Upper Portion) (KVA 13)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character Attributes:** The landscape at KVA 13 is characterized by open meadow and forest mosaic in the foreground/middleground and the expansive western panoramic view in the background (see Appendix D). The bold color and form of the meadow and contrasting forest edge creates a sense of enclosure that creates dominance in the foreground landscape.

  The foreground appears as a steep, grassy meadow bordered on the northern side by dense conifer forest. Vegetation is green to brown and coarse in texture.

  The panoramic background view of the Coast Range and pattern of open meadows, timber harvest, and dense forest provides context to the landscape features in the foreground-middleground. The view extends across the ridgelines to the Pacific Ocean, evident as a continuous horizon line.

- **Scenic Integrity:** Scenic integrity is predominately Low-Moderate. Ground scarring from recent salvage logging is visible and dominates the foreground. One small structure and its access road are visible at the clearing in the middleground. The existing communications structures associated with West Point Spur are apparent, as their tall, vertical forms extend above tree line. The light grey color and smooth texture of the structures contrast with the surrounding soft to coarse texture and green color of the vegetation. When views are directed upward towards Marys Peak, a built character is apparent due to the presence of the existing communications facility. Landscape character appears natural; however, deviations such as the ground scarring from salvage logging, existing communications structures, and timber harvest are evident.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Vertical viewer geometry of this KVA is superior relative to the West Point Spur communications site. Viewer experience on the Meadowedge Trail is considered direct and prolonged, as views would be sustained while recreators ascend or descend across the meadow.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** The primary viewer group represented by KVA 13 is recreators using the trail system at Marys Peak SBSIA. Viewer concern is considered high, as it is assumed that these individuals are seeking a recreational experience in a natural environment.

6.2 Analysis Unit 2: Valley Bottom (Agricultural Lands and Residential Communities)

6.2.1 Landscape Description

The Cities of Corvallis and Philomath are located west of Marys Peak within Benton County. Corvallis is located on the western edge of the Willamette Valley, along the Willamette and Marys Rivers. Corvallis is a developed community with a population of 57,110 containing built infrastructure, parks, roads, industrial centers, and residential communities. Grain fields, nurseries, tree farms, and wetlands surround the city, and the foothills and oak savannas of the Coast Range rise to the west.

The City of Philomath is a rural residential community located 5 miles west of Corvallis within the foothills of the Coast Range. The resource-dependent community is home to several sawmills, light industrial commercial manufacturing facilities, and high-tech companies. Surrounding the city are several small organic farms in the valley bottoms. The Marys River flows to the south of Philomath toward the Willamette Valley. Riparian vegetation along the river consists of black cottonwood, bigleaf maple, alder, and western red cedar. Surrounding the community are blankets of dense conifer forests lining the eastern slopes of the Coast Range, while the coastal foothills are covered in oak savanna.

6.2.1 Viewer Groups and Concern Level

Viewer groups within Analysis Unit 2 are primarily composed of residents and workers who are engaged in their workplace (farm, commercial, industrial). Viewer concern is expected to vary; however, it is assumed that there is an overall high level of viewer concern for the scenic resources of Marys Peak, which contribute to a sense of place within the City of Philomath. Because Marys Peak contributes to the community's character, it is assumed that change in this landscape feature could be associated with a high level of concern.

6.2.2 Key Viewing Areas

Analysis Unit 2 is represented by KVA 4, described below. Photographs documenting existing conditions at each KVA are provided in Appendix D.

KVA 4: City of Philomath

KVA 4 is located at the west edge of the City of Philomath at the parking area of a local business (Figure 6-10).

Figure 6-10. City of Philomath (KVA 4)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** The City of Philomath is surrounded by the shallow foothills of the Coast Range, along the Marys River. Landscape character is shaped by the presence of residential and commercial buildings and roadways. The Coast Range encloses the landscape, creating a

horizon characterized by numerous converging ridgelines. From this KVA, Marys Peak figures prominently in the viewshed.

- **Scenic Integrity:** The scenic integrity of the City of Philomath is High. The surrounding coastal mountains and valley provide a sense of place, and the valued landscape character of a small town is intact. The existing communications structures at Marys Peak are not visually evident due to distance from the KVA. Upland meadows on Marys Peak are evident, appearing lighter green and soft against the darker green and stippled texture of the surrounding conifers.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Vertical viewer geometry at KVA 4 is inferior relative to Marys Peak. Viewer experience is considered variable, with potential for prolonged or intermittent views. Views toward Marys Peak are considered direct.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** Primary viewer groups associated with KVA 4 are assumed to be residents and tourists. Viewer concern is considered moderate. The surrounding landscape contributes to the setting and character of the city.

6.3 Analysis Unit 3: Coast Range (Terrestrial Conifer Forest Lands, Oak Savanna, and Upland Meadows)

6.3.1 Landscape Description

Analysis Unit 3 represents the Coast Range landscape, which is characterized by rugged mountains and incised river valleys. The area is remote, with access provided primarily by Highway 20 and a network of forest roads. Rivers are common in valley bottoms, and the landscape appears steep and enclosed by both topography and dense forest vegetation. From higher elevations, landforms of the Coast Range appear as a network of peaks, with the horizon characterized as a series of converging diagonal lines. To the west, the horizon extends across the Pacific Ocean, and eastward, to the Cascade Range. Evidence of timber harvest is common in the Coast Range, with harvest units appearing as irregular blocks against intact forest.

6.3.2 Viewer Groups and Concern Level

Viewer groups associated with Analysis Unit 3 include residents, tourists, recreators, foresters, and roadway travelers. Residents are associated with small communities located in river valleys or parcels located adjacent to Highway 20. Highway 20 serves as the primary viewer platform within this analysis unit, serving as the main conduit for all viewer groups to move through the landscape.

6.3.3 Key Viewing Areas

Analysis Unit 3 is represented by KVA 5 (Wren Hill), KVA 10 (Highway 20), and KVA 11 (Community of Harlan). Landscape character and viewer groups associated with each KVA are described below. Photographs documenting existing conditions at each KVA are provided in Appendix D.

KVA 5: Wren Hill

This KVA is located at a cul-de-sac on the upper ridge at the west end of the Wren Hill Residential Estates. The Wren Hill Residential Estates are developed on a steep slope of the northern edge of Highway 20 within an oak savanna setting. Large estates are terraced between the oaks. Views extend to background distance zones, with expansive views of Marys Peak and the forested hills and mountains of the Coast Range (Figure 6-11).

Figure 6-11. Wren Hill (KVA 5)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** The landscape character of Wren Hill is considered natural appearing, dominated by the broad forested mountains of the Coast Range. From this KVA, evidence of past timber harvest is evident. Harvest units create distinct geometric shapes where harvested areas meet mature forest. The varied stand age results in a mosaic of green color and varied texture. Marys Peak is prominent and focal to views from this KVA.
- **Scenic Integrity:** The scenic integrity is considered Moderate. The valued landscape character appears slightly altered due to past timber harvest; however, these features are subordinate to the rugged forest landscape of the Coast Range. The existing communications structures at Marys Peak are not visually evident due to distance.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Viewer geometry is subordinate to and at grade relative to Marys Peak. Horizontal viewer geometry is considered direct. Viewer experience is considered prolonged to sustained from residential areas.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** Primary viewer groups from this location are the residents of the Wren Hill Residential Estates. Viewer concern is considered high, as the viewshed is considered central to the character and quality of this residential area.

KVA 10: Highway 20

KVA 10 is a linear KVA, established to demonstrate the viewer experience along Highway 20. The representative photograph was taken near Elmaker State Park at the edge of Highway 20 (Figure 6-12).

Figure 6-12. Highway 20 (KVA 10)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** Highway 20 is a meandering roadway that extends across the Coast Range from east to west. The roadway is bordered by dense forest, creating a narrow viewshed and enclosed landscape character for the majority of the corridor. Periodically, views open and extend to the middleground across adjacent meadows or agricultural fields or upward to the ridgeline of the surrounding mountains in the background distance zone. The landscape character is considered naturally evolving.
- **Scenic Integrity:** The scenic integrity of Highway 20 is considered High. The valued landscape character of the Coast Range is expressed as contiguous forest, punctuated by meadows and agricultural areas. Existing communications structures on Marys Peak are not visually evident from this KVA, although the structures are silhouetted against the skyline.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Vertical viewer geometry along Highway 20 is inferior relative to Marys Peak. Where visible traveling eastbound, horizontal view is considered direct. Views are intermittent as roadway travelers move through the predominantly enclosed landscape.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** Primary viewer groups on Highway 20 include roadway travelers and residents. Viewer concern is considered moderate. Though some roadway travelers may have an expectation of an intact viewshed along Highway 20, other may be using this corridor for travel and therefore not be focused on detailed to aesthetic attributes.

KVA 11: Community of Harlan

This KVA is located in the community of Harlan, due west of Marys Peak (Figure 6-13).

Figure 6-13. Community of Harlan (KVA 11)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** Landscape character at KVA 11 is characterized by broad, open meadows, enclosed by surrounding forested peaks of the Coast Range. The landscape is natural appearing, with elements of the human environment primarily expressed as agriculture and modest residential and commercial structures. Marys Peak is a prominent landform in the viewshed, with open meadows associated with the summit appearing distinct on the horizon.
- **Scenic Integrity:** The scenic integrity is considered Very High. The community character of Harlan is fully expressed, with the surrounding landscape contributing to a sense of place within the Coast Range. Existing communications structures at Marys Peak and West Point Spur are visually evident and skylined.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context**: Viewer geometry relative to Marys Peak is inferior. Viewer experience is considered prolonged to sustained from residences and community buildings.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** Primary viewer groups in the Community of Harlan are residents. Viewer concern is assumed to be moderate to high, as potential change to community character could be a concern.

6.4 Analysis Unit 4: Albany Substation

6.4.1 Landscape Description

The Albany Substation is located on Queens Avenue SW, in the City of Albany. The substation is located immediately adjacent to Queens Avenue SW, the Calapooia River, and Hazelwood Park. The substation is an industrial looking site with metallic equipment and other structures surrounded by a chain-link fence. The valued landscape character of the surrounding areas is noted as residential neighborhoods that are cohesive in their layout. Large trees and open areas provide some natural character to this predominantly built environment.

6.4.2 Viewer Groups and Concern Level

Viewer groups associated with Analysis Unit 4 include residents and roadway travelers. Residents are associated with discrete neighborhoods formed by cul-de-sacs and street grids. Residences, driveways, yards, and local streets serve as the primary viewer platform within this analysis unit.

6.4.3 Key Viewing Areas

Analysis Unit 4 is represented by KVA 14 (Orchard Lane), KVA 15 (West Albany High School), and KVA 16 (Southwest Liberty Street). Landscape character and viewer groups associated with each KVA are described below. Photographs documenting existing conditions at each KVA are provided in Appendix D. Note that no KVA was established at the neighboring Hazelwood Park because views of the communication tower from designated trails are obstructed by dense vegetation.

KVA 14: Orchard Lane

KVA 14 is located in a residential neighborhood on Orchard Lane, across the street from the Albany Substation (Figure 6-14).

Figure 6-14. Residential Neighborhood on Orchard Lane (KVA 14)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** Orchard Lane is located in a residential neighborhood made up of single-family houses, paved streets, sidewalks, and mature ornamental vegetation. The street is oriented such that the existing BPA communication tower is focal to the setting.
- **Scenic Integrity:** The scenic integrity at Orchard Lane (KVA 14) is considered Low-Moderate. The communications tower and electrical infrastructure within the Albany Substation are evident in the backdrop of neighborhood. While they detract from the intactness of the residential neighborhood character, they were present before the subdivision was constructed.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Viewer geometry is at grade. Viewer experience is considered sustained. Views of the communication tower are considered direct but would vary depending on location within the neighborhood. Residents have some views of the steel-lattice structure from their homes, driveways, and yards. Intervening vegetation, such as tall conifers, block some views.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** The primary viewer group associated with KVA 14 is assumed to consist of residents. Viewer concern is considered high.

KVA 15: West Albany High School

This KVA is located approximately 0.5 mile east of the Albany Substation (Figure 6-15).

Figure 6-15. West Albany High School (KVA 15)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** West Albany High School is characterized by the school buildings and surrounding residential neighborhoods and includes a football field and track. Views from this KVA are dominated by the flat surface and horizontal lines of the football field and irregular horizon formed by houses and treetops in the distance.
- **Scenic Integrity:** The scenic integrity at West Albany High School (KVA 15) is considered Moderate. The communications tower is detectable in the backdrop due to the straight, narrow, and vertical line; however, they appear subordinate to the foreground features.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Viewer geometry is at grade relative to the communication tower at Albany Substation. Viewer experience is considered sustained. Views of the communications tower are considered direct but at approximately 1.5 miles from the communications tower.
- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** Primary viewer groups associated with KVA 15 are assumed to be students and spectators. Viewer concern is considered low, as viewers' attention is to activities on the field. The surrounding residential and built environment contributes to the setting and character of the school.

KVA 16: Southwest Liberty Street

This KVA is located approximately 0.4 miles east of the Albany substation (Figure 6-16). The roadway passes in between open space and a residential area.

Figure 6-16. Southwest Liberty Street (KVA 16)

Physical Factors

- **Landscape Character:** Landscape character at KVA 16 is characterized by a broad, open meadow enclosed by surrounding residential and commercial structures. The landscape is natural appearing, with elements of the human environment primarily expressed as residential and commercial structures.
- **Scenic Integrity:** The scenic integrity is considered Low-Moderate, influenced by the presence of transmission lines and poles and small-scale commercial buildings. The communications tower at Albany Substation is subordinate to other existing features in the backdrop, perceptible as a straight, grey, vertical line silhouette.

Perceptual Factors

- **Viewer Context:** Viewer geometry is at grade relative to the communications tower at Albany Substation. Viewer experience for motorists is considered transient, primarily experienced from a moving vehicle. Views of the communications tower would be primarily peripheral and from a distance. This KVA is also representative of residences located on the east side of Southwest Liberty Street, whose views are considered more sustained.

- **Constituent (Viewer) Group and Concern Level:** The primary viewer group associated with KVA 16 is assumed to consist of residents. Viewer concern is considered high.

7. Environmental Consequences

7.1 Introduction

Potential impacts to scenic resources that could result from construction and operation of alternatives at Marys Peak were evaluated based on the level of anticipated visual contrast and scale dominance of the Project. In considering impacts from the proposed action, potential deviations were evaluated against existing landscape character, including existing communications and recreation infrastructure at Marys Peak SBSIA.

Visual contrast and scale dominance were assessed using visual simulations depicting Project components for each alternative. For KVAs with no associated simulation, the analysis was completed by extrapolating information on visual contrast and scale dominance of the Project from simulations prepared for similar viewing conditions. Baseline photographs and simulations are provided in Appendix D. The impact assessment was used to determine conformance with applicable VQOs. Conformance with applicable VQOs was based on long-term operational impacts.

7.2 Description of Alternatives

Three action alternatives were evaluated as part of the Marys Peak BPA Communications Site Project, as described below. Under Alternative 2A, the existing BPA communications site would be maintained and upgraded with a new steel-lattice structure. Under Alternative 3C, BPA would remove the existing communications site from Marys Peak, create a BPA building addition immediately adjacent to the east side of the existing USFS communications building, and construct a new steel-lattice structure. Under Alternative 4, BPA would remove the existing BPA communications site from Marys Peak and move to West Point Spur. Actions evaluated in this technical report include those proposed at Marys Peak and Albany Substation under Alternatives 2A and 3C and at Marys Peak and West Point Spur under Alternative 4.

Under all action alternatives, the following design criteria would apply:

- Existing coastal basalt stone wall on lower Marys Peak Road would be used as an example of potential additional walls.
- USFS approval would be required for any building plans, additions, or renovations.

7.2.1 Alternative 2A

Under Alternative 2A, proposed activities at the Marys Peak component could include the following:

- Stage equipment, materials, and vehicles within the fence at the summit and in up to 1,800 square feet (0.04 acre) of the paved public parking lot.
- Construct a 40-foot-tall, 7-foot-by-7-foot steel-lattice structure (Valmont Q-style steel-lattice box structure) with a 20-foot-tall VHF whip antenna on a concrete pad measuring 13 feet by 13 feet.
- Coordinate with the USFS to determine the most appropriate non-reflective finish for the steel-lattice communications structure.
- Install a 6-foot-diameter Andrew HP6-71W parabolic dish with Teglar radome mounted on the steel-lattice structure's leg directed at 41º true azimuth to Albany Substation. Dish would be a drum-style microwave antenna and would be GRAY RAL 9000 color.

- Construct an ice bridge (i.e., transmission line support structure) between the steel-lattice structure and the building.
- Improve the unpaved access road leading from the paved parking lot to the summit for construction access.
    - Roadway improvements would retain the existing road prism, with the addition of new rock and grading not to expand into grassy road edges.
    - Install up to eight water bars (dip style) along the road at specific locations, including 10-foot-by-10-foot rock aprons on the outfall side of the road. The aprons could be revegetated to minimize visibility. No new ditches would be developed along the access road.
    - Add new rock over the entire road surface. Rock would be non-round, 1- to 2-inch, locally sourced Alsea Quarry rock.
- Improve the building.
    - Install, replace, and maintain equipment inside the building, including microwave and VHF radios, a DC battery system, and a generator.
    - Install heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system (wall mount unit on the north side of the building).
    - Paint exterior of BPA building Sherwin Williams "Sensational Sand" color per USFS recommendation.
- Replace existing BPA 1,000-gallon propane tank with a 2,000-gallon tank in the same location. Coordinate with the USFS to determine the most appropriate non-reflective finish.
- Top 6 to 14 conifers to allow for an unobstructed microwave beam path on adjacent BLM-administered lands (about 0.53 acre); leave snags no shorter than 20 feet tall, where possible. This action would not result in an opening created by tree clearing.
- Lop and scatter the treetops and debris in the local non-meadow habitat area.
- Revegetate areas disturbed by construction with native plant species.

Actions at Albany Substation would include mounting of a 6-foot-diameter Andrew HP6-71W parabolic dish with Teglar radome mounted on the tower leg of the existing steel-lattice structure, with dish directed at Marys Peak summit 68.83º true azimuth. The microwave dish would be a drum-style microwave antenna and would be GRAY RAL 9000 color.

7.2.2 Alternative 3C

Under Alternative 3C, the USFS would construct an addition to its Marys Peak communications building and a new 60-foot-tall, steel-lattice communications structure. BPA would become a tenant in the addition and move BPA communications equipment to the new steel-lattice structure. BPA would remove the BPA communications building and structures from the Marys Peak summit.

Under Alternative 3C, proposed activities at the new USFS site could include the following:

- Stage equipment, materials, and vehicles within the fence at the summit and in up to 1,800 square feet (0.04 acre) of the paved public parking lot.
- Construct a 60-foot-tall Valmont 800 series four-legged tower. Dimensions would be 9 feet wide at the top of the tower, tapering to 17 feet wide at the base of the tower legs. An ice bridge would connect to the USFS communications building.
- Coordinate with the USFS to determine the most appropriate non-reflective finish for the steel-lattice communications structure.

- Install a 6-foot-diameter Andrew HP6-71W parabolic microwave radio dish with Teglar radome mounted on the steel-lattice structure's leg, directed at 41º true azimuth to Albany Substation. Dish would be a drum-style microwave antenna and would be GRAY RAL 9000 color.
- Improve the unpaved access road leading from the paved parking lot to the summit for construction access.
    - Roadway improvements would retain the existing road prism, with addition of new rock and grading not to expand into grassy road edges.
    - Install up to eight water bars (dip style) along the road at specific locations, including 10-foot-by-10-foot rock aprons on the outfall side of the road. The aprons could be revegetated to minimize visibility of the apron. No new ditches would be developed along the access road.
    - Add new rock to the entire road surface. Rock would be non-round, 1- to 2-inch, locally sourced Alsea Quarry rock.
- If needed for site stability, construct a retaining wall using natural-looking rock next to the new steel-lattice structure's slab footing (east of tower pad).
- Remove and replace portions of the existing chain-link fence closer to the USFS site.
- Demolish the existing BPA facilities and remove materials from site.
- Construct a BPA building addition (13 feet wide, 22 feet long, 8 feet tall) adjoining to the east side of the USFS-owned building to replace the existing BPA building. Paint new addition Sherwin Williams "Sensational Sand" color per USFS recommendation. Install wall mount HVAC unit to the south side of the new building addition.
- Remove existing BPA 1,000-gallon propane tank and replace with a 2,000-gallon tank located along the inside of northern chain-link fence. Coordinate with the USFS to determine the most appropriate non-reflective finish.
- Top 6 to 14 conifers to allow for an unobstructed microwave beam path on adjacent BLM-administered lands (about 0.53 acre); leave snags no shorter than 20 feet tall, where possible.
- Lop and scatter the treetops and debris in the local non-meadow habitat area.
- Revegetate areas disturbed by construction with native plant species.

Actions at Albany Substation would include mounting of a 6-foot-diameter Andrew HP6-71W parabolic dish with Teglar radome mounted on the leg of the existing steel-lattice structure, with dish directed at Marys Peak summit 68.83º true azimuth. The microwave dish would be a drum-style microwave antenna and would be GRAY RAL 9000 color.

7.2.3 Alternative 4

Under Alternative 4, BPA would co-locate within the existing CPI communications site and remove the existing BPA communications site on Marys Peak. Under Alternative 4, proposed activities at West Point Spur could include the following:

- Stage equipment, materials, and vehicles within the CPI fence and in a 0.01-acre area west of the CPI site.
- Repair CPI's existing chain-link fence and gate.
- Improve the unpaved access road (NF-112) leading from Marys Peak Road to CPI's communications site. Add water bars and rock aprons at specific locations, including 10-foot-by-10-foot rock aprons on the outfall side of the road. The aprons could be revegetated to minimize visibility of the apron. No new ditches would be developed along the access road.

- Install BPA communications equipment and other equipment inside the CPI building.
- Modify existing building external doors for access, if needed.
- Install a 10-foot-diameter Andrew HP10-71W parabolic dish with Teglar radome mounted to steel-lattice structure leg. Dish would be a drum-style microwave antenna and would be GRAY RAL 9000 color.
-
- Mount dish at 60 feet above ground and at a 44º azimuth directed to Prospect Hill. Dish would be a drum-style microwave antenna and would be GRAY RAL 9000 in color.
- Install two additional 20-foot-tall VHF antennas, one at the top of the existing CPI steel-lattice structure and one approximately 40 feet below the top of the structure.
- Install a 2,000-gallon propane tank and propane supply line, if needed. Coordinate with the USFS to determine the most appropriate non-reflective finish.
- Install an HVAC system on the existing CPI building.
- Install an ice bridge between the existing CPI building and the steel-lattice structure, if needed.
- Hand-excavate one or more 18-inch-deep potholes near the base of the existing CPI steel-lattice structure to bond ground bars to the exposed ground mat.
- Top up to 20 conifers to allow for an unobstructed microwave beam path (0.76 acre); leave snags no shorter than 20 feet tall, where possible.
- Revegetate areas disturbed by construction with native plant species.

7.3 Short-Term Impacts

Short-term impacts to scenic resources could result from construction due to blasting, site clearing, grading, and stockpiling of equipment on-site.[1] Actions that include earthwork would impact scenic resources by removing vegetation and exposing underlying substrate. Visual contrast of exposed substrate with surrounding vegetation is expected to be Strong and would persist until vegetation is re-established.

7.3.1 Alternatives 2A and 3C

Under Alternatives 2A and 3C, temporary construction-related impacts would occur on Marys Peak. Construction-related vehicles and material would introduce Strong visual contrast when viewed in proximity due to potential coloration of machinery, bulk, and non-natural appearance of materials. To the extent possible, stockpiling of construction equipment would occur within the existing fence, though additional staging areas outside of the fence may be necessary. Temporary impacts from equipment and activity would occur within the fence line of the communications site and in the tree cutting area. Vegetation cutting and/or ground scarring from construction of the new steel-lattice structure could result in strong contrast in color and texture of exposed substrate against surrounding meadow; however, visual contrast would be minimized through natural revegetation of cleared areas. Visual impacts from construction of new communications facilities would be localized (largely within the existing fence line) and temporary. Short-term impacts from tree cutting could include ground scarring that contrasts with existing forest and meadow areas.

Construction-related impacts at Albany Substation are expected to be minor. All construction staging would occur within the existing fence line and would only occur for a week or less. Activities would be limited to placement of the new microwave dish on the existing steel-lattice communications structure. No

[1] Note that earth-moving impacts can be long term, resulting in changes in landform and prolonged periods for reestablishing vegetation.

clearing or grading would be required, and construction-related actions would be short term, taking a week or less.

7.3.1 Alternative 4

Under Alternative 4, temporary construction-related impacts would occur on Marys Peak and at West Point Spur. Temporary construction impacts would be similar to that described under Alternatives 2A and 3C; however, they would also include ground scarring where BPA monopoles and radio building were removed, and the fence line was adjusted to the smaller footprint. Short-term impacts would persist until vegetation was reestablished in cleared areas. Temporary construction-related impacts could occur at West Point Spur as a result of equipment and activity needed to mount proposed BPA communications components on the existing CPI lattice structure. No impacts to the ground plain are expected as a result of this action, as the CPI structure is already present on site. Temporary and short-term impacts could result from tree clearing and/or topping; however, impacts would improve over time through natural revegetation of cleared areas.

7.4 Long-Term Impacts

Long-term impacts could result from operational components of the Project, such as new lattice communications structures (including height), changes in site components and configuration (i.e., radio building; fence line), and access road improvements. Earthwork would generally result in short-term impacts; however, where earthwork requires recontouring of topography, impacts could be long term. Visual simulations of proposed changes under action alternatives are provided in Appendix D. The analysis of long-term impacts informed the Plan Conformance determination provided in Section 9. Mitigation considered as part of this analysis is provided in Section 10.

7.4.1 Alternative 2A

KVA 1: Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout

KVA 1 is located on Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout. The view is directed east toward Marys Peak and represents the first opportunity for visitors on Marys Peak Road to experience views of the summit, as Marys Peak Road is enclosed by forest vegetation to this point. From this location, visual contrast of Alternative 2A would appear Moderate as compared to baseline conditions. The primary source of visual contrast would result from the vertical line of the new BPA steel-lattice structure against the predominantly horizontal line of the top of Marys Peak. The addition of the new BPA lattice structure also alters existing structural form by creating a broader, more cubic form in combination with the existing USFS structure. The structure would appear focal as a result of inferior viewer geometry and skylining. Other new components (whip antenna; ice bridge) added to the lattice structure would not be perceptible from this location due to distance and inability to discern detail beyond basic form. Tree cutting areas and access road improvements would not be visible due to topographic screening. Visual impacts from potential access road improvements (if needed) would be minimized through mitigation to maintain the scale and character of the existing road, minimize impacts to shoulders, and maintain rural setting (see Section 10). **In summary, the proposed lattice structure for Alternative 2A would be evident but not dominant. The overall change from existing conditions is considered low, and scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate.**

KVA 2: Marys Peak Campground (Site Number 2)

KVA 2 is located at Marys Peak Campground (Site Number 2). The view is directed southeast toward Marys Peak. Visual contrast of Alternative 2A is considered Weak, largely due to the presence of dense conifers within the campground that would block views of the new BPA lattice structure, and steep viewer angle. It is possible that as the viewers move through the campground, small openings in forest

vegetation could result in more direct views of the new BPA lattice structure; however, it would not be focal to the view. Other new components (whip antenna; ice bridge) added to the new BPA lattice structure or access road improvements would not be perceptible from this location due to distance and inability to discern detail beyond basic form. Tree cutting areas would not be visible due to topographic screening. Because of the enclosure of the landscape at the campground provided by the forest, viewer attention and engagement are expected to be primarily focused within the immediate foreground. **Deviation from the existing landscape character would not be evident, and overall change would be low. Compared to natural conditions, intactness of the landscape is considered moderate due to campsite development, roadways, and parking lot in the immediate foreground. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Moderate.**

KVA 3: Parking Area at Marys Peak Road

KVA 3 is located at the west edge of Marys Peak parking area. The view is directed south toward Marys Peak. Visual contrast of Alternative 2A is considered None-Weak due to the presence of dense conifers that block views of the proposed BPA lattice structure and associated components under Alternative 2A. Visual contrast of roadway improvements would be Moderate, as the new, un-weathered appearance of the new gravel surface would contrast with the soft vegetated edges of the meadow. Contrast is not expected to be Strong because the existing road prism would be maintained (except for one side of the road where water bars are constructed), and improvements would not expand into edges. New water bars would be visible but not dominant. Visual contrast is expected to be reduced over time as the new gravel weathers and vegetation along the road edge encroaches into the graveled areas. Viewer focus and engagement is expected to be directed to the east toward the broad panoramic view of the Willamette Valley and Cascade Range. The tree cutting area would not be visible due to screening by existing conifers. **Overall deviation from the existing landscape character would be evident (primarily due to access road improvements); however, overall change would be low. Scenic integrity would remain High.**

KVA 4: City of Philomath

KVA 4 is located at the west edge of the City of Philomath at the parking area of a local business. Visual contrast of the proposed Project under Alternative 2A would be None-Weak, primarily due to distance. Under typical viewing conditions, the structure would not be visible. It is possible that in late afternoon, under backlighting conditions, the lattice structure could result in Weak visual contrast as it is silhouetted against the skyline. However, at this background viewer distance, the proposed lattice structure, associated components, and tree cutting would not be discernable against the existing USFS structure, and the two would appear as one form. **There would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain High.**

KVA 5: Wren Hill

KVA 5 is located at a cul-de-sac on the upper ridge at the west end of the Wren Hill Residential Estates. There would be no visual contrast of the proposed Project under Alternative 2A, as the proposed lattice structure, associated components, access road improvements, and tree cutting would not be visible from this location. **There would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Moderate.**

KVA 6: Summit Trail (Lower Portion)

KVA 6 is located east of Marys Peak on a segment of the Summit Trail leading from the parking lot to the Marys Peak summit. There would be no visual contrast of the proposed Project under Alternative 2A. The proposed BPA steel-lattice structure and associated components would not be visible from this location, as the height of the structures remains below that of the existing forest stand. Likewise, the tree cutting area is not expected to be evident due to screening by other existing conifers. Access road improvements

could be visible from portions of the summit trail due to the new, un-weathered appearance of new gravel and the contrast against the soft edges of the vegetation along the edges of the road. The degree of visual contrast would depend on the proximity of the viewer to the roadway but overall is expected to be Moderate. Because road improvements would maintain the existing road prism and would not expand into edges (except for one side of the road where water bars are constructed), visual contrast would be minimized when viewed from the lower elevation of the Summit Trail at this location. New water bars would be visible but not dominant. Visual contrast is expected to be reduced over time as the new gravel weathers and vegetation along the road edge encroaches into the graveled areas. **Deviation from the existing landscape character would be low, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity would remain High.**

KVA 7: Marys Peak Access Road (View Directed West)

KVA 7 is located along the access road immediately west of the existing Marys Peak communications site at the top of Marys Peak. Views from this location are directed west across the West Point Spur communications site to the Pacific Ocean. Visual contrast of the proposed BPA lattice structure, associated components, and access road improvements on Marys Peak is expected to be Strong for views to the east. Viewer position is subordinate, contributing to the expected scale dominance of the structure. New surfacing on Marys Peak Road would appear bold, with the new gravel surface introducing Strong visual contrast against the soft texture of adjacent meadow grasses. This level of visual contrast is expected to be reduced over time as the new gravel weathers and surrounding vegetation along the road edge encroaches into the graveled areas. However, because the view to the west is focal, viewer attention is expected be directed west, away from Marys Peak. The tree cutting area would be visible from KVA 7, as tree cutting would occur adjacent to the roadway (Figure 7-1). Depending on how this action is performed, ground scarring could be apparent, with potential impacts to the integrity of the rock garden. Impacts from tree cutting are expected to be short term, as potential visual contrast from this action would decrease over time due to natural revegetation. **Scenic integrity at Marys Peak would remain Very Low (for Marys Peak summit) and Low-Moderate for views directed west. There would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change.**

Figure 7-1. Proposed Tree Cutting Areas at Marys Peak, Alternatives 2A and 3C
(Note: trees proposed for cutting are indicated by green circles.)

KVA 8: Meadowedge Trail (Lower Portion)

KVA 8 is located on the lower portion of the Meadowedge Trail within the West Meadow. This KVA is located downslope from the summit of Marys Peak and is outside of the seen area for Alternative 2A. Likewise, tree cutting and access road improvements would not be visible from this location. Therefore, **there would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Moderate.**

KVA 9: Marys Peak Summit (Picnic Table)

KVA 9 is located at the summit of Marys Peak, at the picnic table located outside the northeast corner of the communications site. From this location, visual contrast of the proposed BPA lattice structure under Alternative 2A would be Strong due to the proximity, scale, linear and geometric form, and industrial character of the structures relative to the surrounding landscape. The proposed BPA structure would be a dominant element in the landscape. Although it would appear larger in stature than the existing monopole, the structure would be more consistent with the existing USFS lattice structure and would therefore improve order and continuity of site components compared to existing conditions. Visual contrast of the dish would be Strong due to the smooth texture against the sky; however, it would appear less focal than the existing monopole-mounted dish. The existing fuel tank would be replaced with a larger fuel tank in the same location; however, this feature is not expected to measurably increase visual contrast due to its low stature. Repainting the BPA building the color of “Sensational Sand” per USFS recommendations would soften the appearance of the building; however, it would remain a dominant element in the collection of communications structures on Marys Peak. Though not visible in the simulation, access road improvements would also be visible from this location and are expected to contribute Strong visual contrast due to the resurfacing of the roadway with new gravel. As described under KVA 7, the tree cutting area would be visible from the summit when looking west (Figure 7-1). Tree cutting could extend field of view experienced for the picnic table but is not expected to impact visual integrity of east-facing views. **Overall scenic integrity would remain Very Low. Views to the east across the Willamette Valley would remain natural appearing. The degree of deviation from the existing landscape character would be low, and there would be moderate overall change. Potential mitigation could include restoration of areas where vegetation was removed in order to maintain natural appearance of the rock garden.**

KVA 10: Highway 20

KVA 10 is a linear KVA established to demonstrate the viewer experience along Highway 20. The representative photograph was taken at Elmaker State Park’s parking lot, at the edge of Highway 20. The contrast rating indicates None-Weak visual contrast of the proposed BPA lattice structure under Alternative 2A, as it would not be discernable from the existing structure at this distance. Collectively, the existing USFS and proposed BPA structures result in Weak visual contrast. Visual contrast could increase in the morning hours when the structures are backlit. Visibility of the Project from Highway 20 would remain limited to isolated portions where views open and extend the background distance zone. There would be no portion of Highway 20 characterized by sustained views of the proposed structure. Tree cutting would not be discernable along Highway 20 due to distance and resulting inability to discern detail. **There would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity would remain High.**

KVA 11: Community of Harlan

KVA 11 is located in the community of Harlan, due west of Marys Peak. There would be no visual contrast of the proposed Project under Alternative 2A, as the proposed BPA lattice structure and associated components would not be visible from this location. Tree cutting would not be discernable due to distance and resulting inability to discern detail. **There would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Very High.**

KVA 12: Marys Peak Summit Trail and Meadowedge Trail Intersection

KVA 12 is located at the intersection of Summit Trail and Meadowedge Trail. The KVA is located where the Summit Trail emerges from the forest and enters the meadow leading to the summit. As observed from the picnic table (KVA 9), visual contrast of the proposed BPA lattice structure and associated components under Alternative 2A would be Strong due to the proximity, scale, linear and geometric form, and industrial character of the structure relative to the surrounding landscape. The microwave dish would appear bold, round and smooth against the more transparent lattice BPA and USFS communications structures. However, the proposed BPA lattice structure would appear more transparent and less focal than the monopole and would introduce a form consistent with that of the existing USFS lattice structure. The proposed structure would be a dominant element in the landscape, particularly due to the inferior viewer position and skylining of the structure as viewed from KVA 12. Tree cutting areas, access road improvements, and changes in the fuel tank size would not be visible due to topographic screening. **The degree of deviation from the existing landscape character would not be evident; however, there would be a moderate overall change. Scenic integrity would remain Low. Views to the east across the Willamette Valley would remain natural appearing.**

KVA 13: Meadowedge Trail (Upper Portion)

As observed from KVA 12, visual contrast of the proposed structure under Alternative 2A from KVA 13 would be Strong due to the proximity, scale, linear and geometric form, and industrial character of the structure relative to the surrounding landscape. The proposed structure would be a dominant element in the landscape, particularly due to the inferior viewer position and skylining of the structure as viewed from KVA 13. Collectively, the scale dominance of the existing USFS and proposed BPA communications site components would not appear different under Alternative 2A. The tree cutting area would not be visible due to topographic screening. **The degree of deviation from the existing landscape character would not be evident; however, there would be a moderate overall change. Scenic integrity on Marys Peak would remain Low-Moderate. Views to the west across the Coast Range would remain natural appearing.**

KVA 14: Orchard Lane

As observed from KVA 14, the visual contrast of the smooth texture, solid form, and grey color of the new 6-foot-diameter microwave dish against the more transparent and angular existing steel-lattice BPA communications structure would be Moderate. Residential viewers would have an unobstructed view of the side portion of the new dish from the roadway, sidewalks, and some houses. Roadway travelers approaching Orchard Lane from SW Queen Avenue would have a more direct view of the structure, particularly if accessing from the southwest. Deciduous and coniferous vegetation would block some views from some locations. The new microwave dish would also be visible to motorists driving by the substation and by people visiting the adjacent public park. **The degree of deviation from the existing landscape character would be evident; however, there would be a low overall change. Scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate, with communications infrastructure a dominant element of landscape character.**

KVA 15: West Albany High School

Visual contrast of the new microwave dish mounted on the existing BPA communications structure at Albany Substation is expected to be None-Weak. Due to the combined factors of distance (0.6 mile) and small scale of the new microwave dish, it would not be evident to viewers. **The degree of deviation from the existing landscape character would not be evident, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity would remain Moderate, with the school facilities and surrounding residential areas being the dominant element of landscape character.**

KVA 16: Southwest Liberty Street

Visual contrast of the new microwave dish mounted on the existing BPA communications structure is expected to be None-Weak. Due to the combined factors of distance (<0.5 mile) and small scale of the new microwave dish, it would not be evident to viewers. **The degree of deviation from the existing landscape character would not be evident, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate, with the school facilities and surrounding residential areas being the dominant element of landscape character.**

7.4.2 Alternative 3C

KVA 1: Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout

KVA 1 is located on Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout. The view is directed east toward Marys Peak and represents the first opportunity for visitors on Marys Peak Road to experience views of the summit, as Marys Peak Road is enclosed by forest vegetation to this point. From this location, visual contrast of Alternative 3C would appear Moderate-Strong. Like Alternative 2A, the addition of the new BPA lattice structure would alter the appearance of structural form by creating a broader, more cubic form in combination with the existing USFS lattice structures. Because of the location of the new BPA lattice structure under Alternative 3C, it would appear to overlap the existing USFS lattice structures, thereby reducing the transparency of both structures and creating a more emboldened dark vertical line. Collectively, the structures would appear focal as a result of inferior viewer geometry and skylining. Other components of Alternative 3C (i.e., addition of building, removal of BPA radio building) and reduction in site footprint would not be detectable due to distance and inferior viewer position. Tree cutting and access road improvements would not be visible due to topographic screening. **The proposed structure for Alternative 3C would be evident but not dominant. The overall change from existing conditions would be moderate, and scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate.**

KVA 2: Marys Peak Campground (Site Number 2)

KVA 2 is located at Marys Peak Campground (Site Number 2). The view is directed southeast toward Marys Peak. Visual contrast of Alternative 3C is considered Weak, largely due to the presence of dense conifers within the campground that would block views of the new BPA lattice structure and other associated Project components. The proposed BPA lattice structure (and existing USFS structures) would be visible though openings in the trees but would not be evident to the casual observer. Other components of Alternative 3C (i.e., addition of building, removal of BPA radio building) and reduction in site footprint would not be detectable due to screening by vegetation, viewer angle, and topography. Tree cutting and access road improvements would not be visible due to topographic screening. **Deviation from the existing landscape character and overall change would be low. Compared to natural conditions, intactness of the landscape is considered moderate due to campsite development, roadways, and parking lot in immediate foreground. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Moderate.**

KVA 3: Parking Area at Marys Peak Road

KVA 3 is located at the west edge of Marys Peak parking area. The view is directed south toward Marys Peak. Visual contrast of the angular and vertical lattice form of the proposed BPA structure against the irregular line of the conifers would be Moderate. As in Alternative 2A, visual contrast of roadway improvements would be Moderate, as the new, un-weathered appearance of new gravel surface would contrast against the soft edges of the meadow. Contrast is not expected to be Strong because the existing road prism would be maintained (except for one side of the road where water bars are constructed), and improvements would not expand into edges. New water bars would be visible but not dominant. Visual contrast is expected to be reduced over time as the new gravel weathers and vegetation encroaches along edges into graveled areas. Collectively, the existing and proposed structure would

attract attention. Other components of Alternative 3C (i.e., addition of building, removal of BPA radio building) and reduction in site footprint would not be detectable due to screening by vegetation and topography. The tree cutting area would not be visible due to topographic screening. **The degree of deviation from the existing landscape character would be evident due to both access road improvements and the taller communications structure at Marys Peak, and there would be a moderate-high level overall change. Scenic integrity would be reduced to Moderate-High.**

KVA 4: City of Philomath

KVA 4 is located at the west edge of the City of Philomath at the parking area of a local business. Visual contrast of the proposed Project under Alternative 3C would be None-Weak, as described for Alternative 2A. At this background viewer distance, the proposed BPA lattice structure, associated components, and tree cutting would not be discernable due to distance and screening from topography. **There would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain High.**

KVA 5: Wren Hill

KVA 5 is located at a cul-de-sac on the upper ridge at the west end of the Wren Hill Residential Estates. There would be no visual contrast of the proposed Project under Alternative 3C, as the proposed lattice structure, associated components, access road improvements, and tree cutting would not be visible from this location due to distance and screening from topography. **There would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Moderate.**

KVA 6: Summit Trail (Lower Portion)

KVA 6 is located east of Marys Peak on a segment of the Summit Trail leading from the parking lot to the Marys Peak summit. There would be no visual contrast of the proposed new lattice structure and associated components. Project under Alternative 3C. The proposed structure would not be visible from this location, as the height of the structures remains below that of the existing forest stand. Likewise, tree cutting is not expected to be evident due to screening by other existing conifers. As in Alternative 2A, Access road improvements could be visible from portions of the summit trail due to the new, un-weathered appearance of new gravel, and the contrast against the soft edges to of the grass. The degree of visual contrast would depend on the proximity of the viewer to the roadway but overall is expected to be Moderate. Because road improvements would maintain the existing road prism (except for one side of the road where water bars are constructed) and not expand into edges, visual contrast would be minimized when viewed from the lower elevation of the Summit Trail at this location. New water bars would be visible but not dominant. Visual contrast is expected to be reduced over time as the new gravel weathers and vegetation encroaches along edges into gravel areas. **Deviation from the existing landscape character would be low, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity would remain High.**

KVA 7: Marys Peak Access Road (View Directed West)

KVA 7 is located along the access road immediately west of the existing Marys Peak communications site at the top of Marys Peak. Views from this location are directed west toward the Pacific Ocean. As in Alternative 2B, visual contrast of Alternative 3C from this location is expected to be Strong. Other components of Alternative 3C (i.e., addition of building, removal of BPA radio building) and reduction in site footprint may be detectable from the access road, particularly if features such as a downslope retaining wall are constructed. New surfacing on Marys Peak Road would appear bold, with visual contrast of the new gravel surface introducing Strong contrast against the soft texture of adjacent meadow vegetation. Contrast is not expected to be Strong because the existing road prism would be maintained (except for one side of the road where water bars are constructed), and improvements would not expand into edges into graveled areas. This level of visual contrast is expected to be reduced over

time as the new gravel weathers and surrounding vegetation encroaches on edges. Despite changes in site layout and reduction of overall footprint, communications infrastructure at Marys Peak and the improved access road would remain a dominant feature. Tree cutting would be visible from KVA 7, as tree cutting would occur adjacent to the roadway (Figure 7.1). Depending on how this action is performed, ground scarring could be apparent, with potential impacts to the integrity of the rock garden. **Scenic integrity at Marys Peak summit would remain Very Low. There would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change.**

KVA 8: Meadowedge Trail (Lower Portion)

KVA 8 is located on the lower portion of the Meadowedge Trail within the West Meadow. This KVA is located downslope from the summit of Marys Peak and is outside of the seen area for Alternative 3C. There would be no visual contrast of the proposed Project, including the improved access road, as lattice structure would not be visible from this location. Likewise, tree cutting would not be visible from this location due to screening by topography. Therefore, **there would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Moderate, and landscape character would remain natural appearing.**

KVA 9: Marys Peak Summit (Picnic Table)

KVA 9 is located at the summit of Marys Peak, at the picnic table located outside the northeast corner of the communications site. From this location, visual contrast of the proposed BPA lattice structure and associated communications infrastructure under Alternative 3C would be Strong due to the proximity, scale, linear and geometric form, and industrial character relative to the surrounding landscape. The existing BPA building would be removed and reconstructed adjacent to the USFS building, thereby combining the silhouette and form of the two structures. Likewise, the existing fuel tank would be removed, and replaced with a larger tank; however, it would be placed downslope and oriented east-west to minimize visual contrast. Though not visible in the simulation, access road improvements would also be visible from this location and are expected to contribute Strong visual contrast due to the resurfacing of the roadway with new un-weathered gravel. Like existing conditions and Alternative 2A, the proposed BPA steel-lattice structure and associated site components would be a dominant element in the landscape; however, the consolidation of communications site infrastructure (lattice structure, buildings) within a smaller footprint (i.e., reduced by 6,464 square feet) would reduce the scale dominance of the structures when viewed from the picnic area. The consolidation of communications infrastructure into a reduced footprint would appear less cluttered and discordant and would also reduce obstruction to views to the west. As described under KVA 7, tree cutting would be visible from the summit when looking west.

Scenic integrity would remain Very Low at Marys Peak summit due to proximity of the structures. Views to the east across the Willamette Valley would remain natural appearing, with Moderate-High scenic integrity. The degree of deviation from the existing landscape character would be low, and there would be a moderate positive overall change.

KVA 10: Highway 20

KVA 10 is a linear KVA established to demonstrate the viewer experience along Highway 20. Visual contrast of Alternative 3C would be the same as Alternative 2A (None-Weak), as the proposed BPA lattice structure, tree cutting, and site-specific changes (i.e., consolidation of infrastructure to a smaller footprint) would not be discernable at this distance. Tree cutting would not be discernable along Highway 20 due to distance and resulting inability to discern detail. **There would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity would remain High.**

KVA 11: Community of Harlan

This KVA is located in the community of Harlan, due west of Marys Peak. As in Alternative 2A, there would be no visual contrast from the proposed structure and site modifications, as the proposed BPA

lattice structure, other infrastructure, and tree cutting would not be discernable. **There would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Very High.**

KVA 12: Marys Peak Summit Trail and Meadowedge Trail Intersection

KVA 12 is located at the intersection of Summit Trail and Meadowedge Trail. The KVA is located where the Summit Trail emerges from the forest and enters the meadow leading to the summit. As observed from the picnic table (KVA 9), and similar to Alternative 2A, visual contrast of the proposed structure under Alternative 3C would be Strong due to the proximity, scale, linear and geometric form, and industrial character of the structure relative to the surrounding landscape. The proposed structure would be a dominant element in the landscape, again, due to the inferior viewer position and skylining of the structure, as viewed from KVA 12. The structure would be taller than that seen in Alternative 2A; however, the scale dominance would not substantially increase impacts as compared to Alternative 2A. From this viewer position, benefits of the smaller site footprint and consolidation of structures would not be fully realized, as they are screened from view due to topography. The tree cutting area, access road improvements, and changes in the fuel tank size and location would not be visible due to topographic screening. **The degree of deviation from the existing conditions would be evident, and there would be a moderate overall change. Scenic integrity would remain Low. Views to the east across the Willamette Valley would remain natural appearing.**

KVA 13: Meadowedge Trail (Upper Portion)

As observed from KVA 12, visual contrast of the proposed structure under Alternative 3C would be Strong due to the proximity, scale, linear and geometric form, and industrial character of the structure relative to the surrounding landscape. The proposed structure would be a dominant element in the landscape, particularly due to the inferior viewer position and skylining of the structure as viewed from KVA 13. Scale dominance of the structure would not appear different under Alternative 2A. Tree cutting would not be visible due to topographic screening. **The degree of deviation from the existing landscape character would be evident, and there would be a moderate overall change. Scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate. Views to the west across the Coast Range would remain natural appearing.**

KVA 14: Orchard Lane (Albany Substation)

Same as Alternative 2A.

KVA 15: West Albany High School (Albany Substation)

Same as Alternative 2A.

KVA 16: Southwest Liberty Street (Albany Substation)

Same as Alternative 2A.

7.4.3 Alternative 4

There would be no visual contrast from actions associated with Alternative 4 when viewed from the following KVAs:

- KVA 1: Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout
- KVA 2: Marys Peak Campground
- KVA 3: Parking Area at Marys Peak Road
- KVA 4: City of Philomath

- KVA 5: Wren Hill
- KVA 6: Summit Trail (Lower Portion)
- KVA 14: Orchard Lane (Albany Substation)
- KVA 15: West Albany High School (Albany Substation)
- KVA 16: Southwest Liberty Street (Albany Substation)

Removal of BPA structures from Marys Peak and changes in USFS site components and configuration would not be visible. Likewise, new BPA components added to the existing CPI lattice structure would be screened by vegetation and topography.

Although the existing structure and proposed additional components would not be visible from these KVAs, there is the potential for tree cutting or topping along Marys Peak Road to be evident (Figure 7-2). Roadway travelers would pass this clearing while in motion, potentially observing tree cutting or topping at an oblique to right angle, and from an inferior viewer position. This exposure could minimize perception of impacts to scenic quality from the roadway. Tree cutting and topping could also result in increased visibility of the existing CPI structure (including proposed additional BPA components) from Marys Peak Road.

Figure 7-2. Proposed Tree Cutting at West Point Spur

(Note: trees proposed for removal are indicated by green circles.)

KVA 7: Marys Peak Access Road (View Directed West)

KVA 7 is located along the access road immediately west of the existing communications site at the top of Marys Peak. Views from this location are directed west toward the Pacific Ocean and include the existing CPI site. Visual contrast of proposed components added to the CPI communications structure would be None-Weak, as they are not considered evident from existing conditions. With the proposed cutting and/or topping of approximately 18 trees at West Point Spur, the existing CPI communications structure and associated proposed BPA components could become more visible from this superior viewer position. The visibility of the structure could increase during periods of front-lighting. Removal of BPA

communications infrastructure and reduction in site footprint may be detectable from the access road; however, it is not expected to reduce scale dominance of existing USFS communications infrastructure as viewed from the access road and therefore would not improve scenic integrity. Despite changes in site layout and reduction of overall footprint, USFS communications infrastructure at Marys Peak would remain a dominant feature at the summit. **There would be low deviation from the existing landscape character and low-moderate overall change. Scenic integrity would remain Very Low at Marys Peak summit and Low-Moderate for views directed west. Low-Moderate scenic integrity is largely the result of existing ground scarring east of the CPI site.**

KVA 8: Meadowedge Trail (Lower Portion)

The KVA is located on the lower portion of the Meadowedge Trail within the West Meadow, below KVA 7. Views from KVA 8 extend west toward the Pacific Ocean and would include Alternative 4. Visual contrast and deviation from existing character would be the same as that described for KVA 7. **There would be low deviation from the existing landscape character and low overall change. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Moderate.**

KVA 9: Marys Peak Summit (Picnic Table)

KVA 9 is located at the summit of Marys Peak, at the picnic table located outside the northeast corner of the Marys Peak communications site. Visual contrast and deviation from existing character would be the same as that described for KVA 7.

Actions at Marys Peak would not introduce new sources of visual contrast, as BPA components (monopoles and radio building) would be removed. Removal of these components and reduction in fence line perimeter around the existing USFS communications infrastructure would reduce overall scale dominance of this infrastructure and reduce the visual clutter that resulted from BPA infrastructure. **Scenic integrity would be considered Low. Views to the east across the Willamette Valley would remain naturally appearing. The degree of deviation from the existing landscape character would be moderate, and there would be a moderate positive overall change. For actions at West Point Spur, long-term impacts would be the same as those described for KVA 7.**

KVA 10: Highway 20

KVA 10 is a linear KVA established to demonstrate the viewer experience along Highway 20. The representative photograph was taken at Elmaker State Park's parking lot, at the side of the highway. There would be no change in the visual contrast of the existing CPI communications structure and new BPA components, or changes in the appearance of USFS communications infrastructure on Marys Peak. Removal of BPA communications infrastructure from Marys Peak would not be detectable due to distance and topography. Vegetation clearing and/or topping would also not be expected to be visually evident at this distance. **There would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and there would be no overall change. Scenic integrity would remain High.**

KVA 11: Community of Harlan

Like KVA 10 and the analysis for Highway 20, there would be no change in the visual contrast of the existing CPI communications structure, and components proposed under Alternative 4 would not be detectable at this distance. There would be no change in the visual contrast of the existing CPI communications structure and new BPA components, or changes in the appearance of USFS communications infrastructure on Marys Peak. Removal of BPA communications infrastructure from Marys Peak would not be detectable due to distance and topography. Vegetation clearing and/or topping would also not be expected to be visually evident at this distance. **There would be no deviation from the existing landscape character, and low-moderate overall change. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Very High.**

KVA 12: Marys Peak Summit Trail and Meadowedge Trail Intersection

KVA 12 is located at the intersection of Summit Trail and Meadowedge Trail. The KVA is located where the Summit Trail emerges from the forest and enters the meadow leading to the summit. Views from KVA extend west toward the Pacific Ocean. Visual contrast and deviation from existing character would be the same as that described for KVA 7. There would be no change in the visual contrast of the existing CPI communications structure, and components proposed under Alternative 4 would not be detectable at this distance. **There would be low deviation from the existing landscape character and low overall change. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Low.**

KVA 13: Meadowedge Trail (Upper Portion)

KVA 13 is located at the upper portion of the Meadowedge Trail, at the summit of Marys Peak. Visual contrast and deviation from existing character would be the same as that described for KVA 7. **There would be low deviation from the existing landscape character, and low overall change. Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Low-Moderate.**

7.4.4 Summary of Impacts by KVA

Table 7-1 provides a summary of impact findings by KVA.

7.5 Summary of Impacts

Project-related impacts to scenic resources are summarized below based on the four analysis units identified for study: (1) Marys Peak SBSIA, (2) Valley Bottom, (3) Coast Range, and (4) Albany Substation. These areas provide an assemblage of viewer conditions (distance, height, geometry) and Project-specific exposure that directly influence the extent to which beneficial and adverse impacts to scenic resources would be experienced. Valley Bottom and Coast Range viewer areas provide similar viewer conditions of Marys Peak, primarily due to distance and the intermittent visibility of the Marys Peak summit due to screening from vegetation and topography. Marys Peak SBSIA is unique in that viewer locations include the summit and immediate vicinity. As a result, more of the communications infrastructure may be visible from locations within Marys Peak SBSIA. A summary of anticipated impacts to scenic integrity as viewed from each of these analysis areas is provided below. Because of the similar viewing conditions, the Valley Bottom and Coast Range viewer locations are discussed together.

7.5.1 Marys Peak SBSIA

Several notable landscape attributes exist within the Marys Peak SBSIA, including dense forests, open meadows, steep slopes, broad panoramic views, and recreation and communications infrastructure. These attributes are expressed individually or collectively to create varied landscape character types and foster a sense of distinct “outdoor rooms” as one passes through them. Because of the dense forest vegetation and steep topography, views are generally limited to the immediate foreground or middleground, with the exception of the broad panoramic views from the summit that extend into and beyond the background distance zone. Viewer experience is similarly variable depending on position within or movement through the Marys Peak SBSIA. As such, perceived impacts to scenic resources from the proposed Project under action alternatives would vary across the Marys Peak SBSIA depending on the location of the viewer, the proposed action, and the scale of the proposed action.

Table 7-1. Summary of Impacts by KVA

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 1: Saddle Mountain Pullout	• Upland meadow bordered by mixed conifer forests in the foreground. • The existing USFS lattice structure is evident; BPA monopole and USFS and BPA communications buildings are not visible. • Scenic integrity is Low-Moderate.	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure on Marys Peak would be Moderate. • Tree cutting areas, modifications to BPA building color, increased size of fuel tank, and access road improvements would not be visible. • Access road improvements would not be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate.	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure on Marys Peak would be Moderate-Strong. • Consolidation of BPA and USFS communications infrastructure and larger-sized fuel tank would not be perceptible. • Proposed tree cutting areas and access road improvements would not be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate.	• Communications infrastructure, access road improvements on NF Road 112, and tree clearing and/or topping at West Point Spur would not be visible. • Removal of BPA communications infrastructure from Marys Peak would not be perceptible. • There would be no visual contrast because Project elements would not be visible. • Impacts to scenic integrity from Marys Peak Road could result from tree clearing. • Scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate.

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 2: Marys Peak Campground (Site Number 2)	• Developed campground facility located within a dense conifer forest. • The existing USFS lattice structure is evident; BPA monopole and USFS and BPA communications buildings are not visible. • Scenic integrity is Moderate.	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure on Marys Peak would be Weak. • Proposed tree cutting areas, modifications to BPA building color, larger fuel tank, and access road improvements would not be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Moderate.	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure on Marys Peak would be Weak. • Consolidation of BPA and USFS communications infrastructure would not be perceptible. • Proposed tree cutting areas, new location of BPA building, larger fuel tank (in new location), and access road improvements would not be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Moderate.	• Communications infrastructure, access road improvements on NF Road 112, and tree clearing and/or topping at West Point Spur would not be visible. • Removal of BPA communications infrastructure from Marys Peak would not be perceptible. • There would be no visual contrast because Project elements would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Moderate.

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 3: Parking Area at Marys Peak Road	• Broad, sloping meadow, enclosed by surrounding conifer forest and panoramic views of the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountains. • The existing USFS lattice structures are evident but subordinate; BPA monopole and USFS and BPA communications buildings are not visible. • Scenic integrity is High (for views of Marys Peak).	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure on Marys Peak would be None-Weak. • Visual contrast of new gravel associated with access road improvements would be Moderate. • Proposed tree cutting areas would not be visible; other changes to communications infrastructure (new paint color, larger fuel tank) would not be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain High.	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure on Marys Peak would be Moderate. • Visual contrast of new gravel associated with access road improvements would be Moderate. • Consolidation of BPA and USFS communications infrastructure on a smaller footprint would not be perceptible. • Proposed tree cutting areas would not be visible; other communications infrastructure (new BPA building and fuel tank) would not be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would be reduced to Moderate-High.	• Communications infrastructure, access road improvements on NF Road 112, and tree clearing and/or topping at West Point Spur would not be visible. • Removal of BPA communications infrastructure from Marys Peak would not be perceptible. • There would be no visual contrast because Project elements would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain High.

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 4: City of Philomath	• Surrounded by the shallow foothills of the Coast Range, along the Marys River. • Marys Peak prominent in viewshed. • The existing USFS lattice communications structures at Marys Peak are not visually evident; BPA monopole and USFS and BPA communications buildings are not visible. • Scenic integrity is High.	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure on Marys Peak would be None-Weak. • Proposed tree cutting areas and access road improvements would not be visible; changes to communications infrastructure not visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain High.	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure on Marys Peak would be None-Weak. • Consolidation of BPA and USFS communications infrastructure on a smaller footprint would not be perceptible. • Proposed tree cutting areas and access road improvements would not be visible; changes to communications infrastructure would not be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain High.	• Communications infrastructure, access road improvements on NF Road 112, and tree clearing and/or topping at West Point Spur would not be visible • Removal of BPA communications infrastructure from Marys Peak would not be perceptible from this location. • There would be no visual contrast because Project elements would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain High.

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 5: Wren Hill	• Natural appearing, dominated by the broad forested mountains of the Coast Range. • Existing USFS lattice communications structures at Marys Peak are not visually evident due to distance; BPA monopole and USFS and BPA communications buildings are not visible. • Scenic integrity is Moderate.	• There would be no visual contrast of the proposed Project on Marys Peak, as all Project elements would not be visible from this location. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Moderate.	• There would be no visual contrast of the proposed Project on Marys Peak, as all Project elements would not be visible from this location. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Moderate.	• Communications infrastructure, access road improvements on NF Road 112, and tree clearing and/or topping at West Point Spur would not be visible. • Removal of BPA communications infrastructure from Marys Peak would not be perceptible from this location. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • There would be no visual contrast because Project elements would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Moderate.

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 6: Summit Trail (Lower Portion)	• Sloping meadow hillside to the west and north and the adjacent conifer forest. • Unpaved access road and recreational trails to Marys Peak are evident. • Existing USFS lattice structures at the Marys Peak summit are not visible; BPA monopole and USFS and BPA communications buildings are not visible. • Scenic integrity is High.	• There would be no visual contrast of new communications infrastructure as it would not be visible. • Proposed tree cutting areas would not be visible due to screening from conifers. • Visual contrast of access road improvements would be Moderate. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain High.	• There would be no visual contrast of new communications infrastructure as it would not be visible. • Proposed tree cutting areas would not be visible due to screening from conifers. • Visual contrast of access road improvements would be Moderate. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain High.	• Communications infrastructure, access road improvements on NF Road 112, and tree clearing and/or topping at West Point Spur would not be visible. • Removal of BPA communications infrastructure from Marys Peak (and benefits to scenic integrity) would not be perceptible from this location. • There would be no visual contrast because Project elements would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain High.

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 7: Marys Peak Access Road (View Directed West)	• For views to the west, scenic integrity is considered Low-Moderate; Very Low at Marys Peak summit.	• Visual contrast of new communications infrastructure at Marys Peak would be Strong. • Tree cutting would be visible, as tree removal would occur adjacent to the roadway. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity at Marys Peak would remain Very Low and Low-Moderate for views directed west.	• Visual contrast of new communications infrastructure at Marys Peak would be Strong. • Improvements to Marys Peak from changes in infrastructure and consolidation of site components into a smaller footprint may be evident. • Tree cutting would be visible. • New larger fuel tank would potentially be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity at Marys Peak would remain Very Low and Low-Moderate for views directed west.	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure at West Point Spur would be None-Weak. • Access road improvements on NF Road 112 would not be visible. • Removal of BPA infrastructure and smaller footprint around existing USFS facilities would reduce overall scale dominance and remove co-dominance of communications infrastructure at Marys Peak. This change would be beneficial to scenic quality. • Scenic integrity at Marys Peak would remain Very Low and Low-Moderate for views directed west.

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 8: Meadowedge Trail (Lower Portion)	• Steep, sloping hillsides of West Meadow. • Lattice structures located at West Point Spur are visible against the western horizon. • Scenic integrity is Moderate.	• No visual contrast of the proposed Project at Marys Peak, as lattice structure would not be visible. • Proposed tree cutting areas, changes in communications infrastructure (new paint color, larger fuel tank), and access road improvements would not be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Moderate.	• No visual contrast of the proposed Project at Marys Peak, as lattice structure would not be visible. • Improvements to Marys Peak from changes in infrastructure (replacement of BPA building adjacent to USFS building; larger fuel tank in new location) and consolidation of site components into a smaller footprint would not be evident from this location. • Proposed tree cutting areas and access road improvements would not be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Moderate.	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure at West Point Spur would be None-Weak. • Access road improvements on NF Road 112 would not be visible. • Improvements to Marys Peak from removal of BPA infrastructure and smaller footprint around existing USFS facilities would not be evident. • Scenic integrity would remain Moderate.

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 9: Marys Peak Summit (Picnic Table)	• 360 degree panoramic view of the surrounding landscape; backdrop extends to the Pacific Ocean. • Existing communications structures (USFS and BPA) are a dominant feature. • Fence line and communications infrastructure block views to the west. • Scenic integrity is Very Low.	• Visual contrast of new communications infrastructure at Marys Peak would be Strong. • Access road improvements would introduce Strong visual contrast. • Tree cutting activity would be visible from the summit when looking west. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Very Low.	• Visual contrast of new communications infrastructure at Marys Peak would be Strong. • Removal of existing BPA facilities and consolidation of new BPA lattice structure and building within a smaller footprint would reduce the scale dominance of communications infrastructure compared to existing conditions and Alternative 2A. • Location of larger fuel tank and orientation east-west would minimize visual contrast of this new component. • Consolidation of footprint improves views to the west by limiting areas blocked by infrastructure. • Access road improvements would introduce Strong visual contrast. • Tree cutting would be visible to the west. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Very Low, though there would be a moderate positive overall change.	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure at West Point Spur would be None-Weak. • Access road improvements on NF Road 112 would not be visible. • Overall scale dominance and remove co-dominance of communications infrastructure at Marys Peak. This change would be beneficial to scenic quality. • Scenic integrity would remain Low for views toward West Point Spur (due to presence of existing communications structures).

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 10: Highway 20	• Meandering roadway that extends across the Coast Range from east to west. • Bordered by dense forest, creating a narrow viewshed and enclosed landscape character. • Existing communications structures on Marys Peak are not visually evident. • Scenic integrity is High.	• Visual contrast of new communications infrastructure at Marys Peak would be None-Weak. • Tree cutting and access road improvements would not be discernable. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain High.	• Visual contrast of new communications infrastructure at Marys Peak would be None-Weak. • Tree cutting and access road improvements would not be discernable. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain High.	• Visual contrast of new communications infrastructure at West Point Spur would be None-Weak. • Access road improvements on NF Road 112 would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain High.
KVA 11: Community of Harlan	• Broad open meadows, enclosed by surrounding forested peaks of the Coast Range. • The landscape is natural appearing, with elements of the human environment primarily expressed as agriculture. • The scenic integrity is Very High.	• No visual contrast as new communications infrastructure at Marys Peak would not be visible. • Tree cutting would not be discernable. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity of the landscape would remain Very High.	• Same as Alternative 2A.	• Visual contrast would be the same as that described for existing conditions. • Scenic integrity would remain Very High.

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 12: Marys Peak Summit Trail and Meadowedge Trail Intersection	• Grassy meadow/hillside, communications structures, and broad horizon of the Coast range and Pacific Ocean. • Communications structures are dominant in the landscape. • Scenic integrity is Low.	• Visual contrast of new communications infrastructure at Marys Peak would be Strong. • The proposed lattice structure and microwave dish would be dominant. • Tree cutting areas, repainted BPA building, larger fuel tank, and access road improvements would not be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Low.	• Visual contrast would be Strong, similar to that described for Alternative 2A. • The new location and larger size of the fuel tank would not be visible. • The proposed lattice structure would be taller than that seen in Alternative 2A; however, the scale dominance would not substantially increase impacts as compared to Alternative 2A. • Benefits of the more condensed site footprint, and consolidation of structures would be evident in that the fence line would not be visible. • Tree cutting areas and access road improvements would not be visible due to topographic screening. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Low.	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure at West Point Spur would be None-Weak. • Access road improvements on NF Road 112 would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Low (largely due to presence of existing communications structures in foreground).

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 13: Meadowedge Trail (Upper Portion)	• Open meadow and forest mosaic and panoramic view to the west. • Ground scarring from recent salvage logging is visible and dominates the foreground. • Scenic integrity is predominately Low-Moderate.	• Visual contrast of new communications infrastructure (including repainted BPA building and increased size of fuel tank) at Marys Peak would be Strong. • The proposed lattice structure would be dominant. • Scale dominance of the communications site would not appear different from existing conditions. • Tree cutting and access road improvements would not be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate.	• Visual contrast of new communications infrastructure at Marys Peak would be Strong, similar to that described for Alternative 2A. • The proposed lattice structure would be taller than that seen in Alternative 2A; however, the scale dominance would not substantially increase impacts as compared to Alternative 2A. • From this viewer position, benefits of the more condensed site footprint could be apparent due to limitation in view of the fence line. • Tree cutting and access road improvements would not be visible. • The new dish mounted on the existing communications structure at Albany Substation would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate.	• Visual contrast of communications infrastructure would be None-Weak. • Access road improvements on NF Road 112 would not be visible. • Scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate.
KVA 14: Orchard Lane	• Residential neighborhood composed of single-family houses, paved streets, sidewalks, and mature ornamental vegetation. • Scenic integrity is Low-Moderate.	• Actions on Marys Peak would not be visible (as this KVA is focused on Albany Substation). • Visual contrast of new microwave dish at Albany Substation would be Moderate. • Scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate.	• Same as Alternative 2A.	• Actions on West Point Spur not visible. • There would be no visual contrast because Project elements would not be visible.

Key Viewing Area	Existing Conditions	Alternative 2A	Alternative 3C	Alternative 4
KVA 15: West Albany High School	• West Albany High School. • Scenic integrity is Moderate.	• Actions on Marys Peak would not be visible. • Visual contrast of new microwave dish at Albany Substation would be None-Weak. • Scenic integrity would remain Moderate.	• Same as Alternative 2A.	• Actions on West Point Spur not visible. • There would be no visual contrast because Project elements would not be visible.
KVA 16: Southwest Liberty Street	• Broad, open meadow enclosed by surrounding residential and commercial structures. • Scenic integrity is Low-Moderate.	• Actions on Marys Peak would not be visible. • Visual contrast of new microwave dish at Albany Substation would be None-Weak. • Scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate.	• Same as Alternative 2A.	• Actions on West Point Spur not visible. • There would be no visual contrast because Project elements would not be visible.

Several different areas within Marys Peak SBSIA were analyzed, including the approach to the summit along Marys Peak Road (Marys Peak Road at Saddle Mountain Pullout, Parking Area at Marys Peak Road), the approach to the summit along the trail network (Summit Trail [Lower Portion], Marys Peak Access Road [View Directed West], Meadowedge Trail [Lower and Upper Portion], Marys Peak Summit Trail and Meadowedge Trail Intersection), and Marys Peak summit (Picnic Table).

Alternative 2A: The actions associated with Alternative 2A that would result in the greatest impacts to scenic resources include the addition of a new 40-foot BPA lattice structure, removal of two monopoles, access road improvements, and tree cutting on the Marys Peak summit. The addition of the new BPA lattice structure would contribute the most to potential impacts, as the tall stature could be visible from areas located below the summit (i.e., Marys Peak Road at Saddle Mountain Pullout). Where this structure would not be shielded from view by tall conifers (i.e., Parking Area at Marys Peak Road), it would be visually evident, particularly in combination with existing USFS lattice structures. The 40-foot height of the new BPA tower would ensure that it is screened by vegetation and topography from many parts of Marys Peak, as average height of existing conifers exceeds 40 feet. The new BPA structure would not deviate in form from the existing USFS lattice structures and therefore would not reduce scenic integrity from what currently exists. Actions associated with Alternative 2A would be most evident at the summit. From this close vantage point, the removal of BPA's existing wooden and lattice monopoles would be evident, as would the increased massing of lattice structures that could result from the addition of a third lattice structure to Marys Peak. Although the new BPA lattice structure would be visually evident, it would not further detract from existing scenic integrity because impacts from the existing BPA and USFS communications infrastructure already result in Very Low scenic integrity. **Overall scenic integrity of the Marys Peak SBSIA would remain the same as existing conditions.**

Alternative 3C: The actions associated with Alternative 3C that would result in the greatest impacts to scenic resources include the addition of a new 60-foot BPA lattice structure and consolidation of new and existing BPA and USFS communications infrastructure within a smaller site footprint on Marys Peak (i.e., reduced by 6,464 square feet), and access road improvements. Similar to Alternative 2A, the new BPA lattice structure would contribute the most to potential impacts, as the tall stature could be visible from areas located below the summit (i.e., Marys Peak Road at Saddle Mountain Pullout). Additionally, because of its height, the new BPA lattice structure would have the potential to be seen from other locations around Marys Peak, as the structure would appear taller than surrounding conifers (e.g., Parking Area at Marys Peak Road). The height of the BPA lattice structure under Alternative 3C could impact scenic resources within Marys Peak SBSIA to a greater extent than Alternative 2A. Despite this added potential for impacts, improvements to scenic quality on Marys Peak summit would be evident, as the consolidation of communications infrastructure would limit the extent to which existing and proposed communications infrastructure blocked views to the west. **However, site-specific improvements are not expected to improve overall scenic integrity of the Marys Peak summit, as the proposed BPA and existing USFS infrastructure would continue to be a dominant element of the landscape.**

Alternative 4: Compared to other action alternatives, Alternative 4 would result in the greatest improvements to scenic quality, as no new BPA lattice communications structures would be added to the Marys Peak summit, and existing monopoles would be removed. These actions, combined with a re-alignment of the fence line around the smaller footprint of existing USFS communications infrastructure (i.e., reduced by 6,464 square feet), would improve scenic quality of the Marys Peak summit by reducing scale dominance and creating a more organized appearance of the communications infrastructure.

Scenic integrity would be Low for immediate foreground views at Marys Peak, representing a moderate positive overall change. BPA-actions at West Point Spur could result in increased visibility of the existing CPI lattice structure; however, the extent of this change would depend on how tree cutting and/or topping was implemented. **Scenic integrity would remain Low-Moderate in middleground/background distance zones. Low-Moderate scenic integrity is largely the result of existing ground scarring east of the CPI site and not the result of proposed BPA actions under Alternative 4.**

7.5.2 Valley Bottom and Coast Range Analysis Units

Several different areas within the Valley Bottom and Coast Range analysis units were analyzed, including residential areas (City of Philomath, Community of Harlan, and Wren Hill) and the primary transportation route of Highway 20. From these locations, Marys Peak appears as a prominent landform, appearing distinct, large in scale, and prominent within the skyline. Action alternatives would be primarily undiscernible from existing conditions when viewed from KVAs located in the Valley Bottom or Coast Range analysis units due to distance and screening from topography and vegetation. It is possible that the silhouette of new BPA communications infrastructure under Alternative 2A or 3C could be detected under front-lit or back-lit conditions; however, the cubic form of the new lattice structures under either alternative would not be discernable from that of the existing USFS lattice structure. Changes in non-lattice structure components would not be visible because the low height and small stature of these components would not be silhouetted against the horizon of Marys Peak. **Scenic integrity of Valley Bottom and Coast Range viewer locations would remain the same as existing conditions under all action alternatives.**

7.5.3 Albany Substation

Alternatives 2A and 3C: A three-mile radius around the Albany Substation was evaluated for potential visual impacts that could result from the addition of the microwave dish to the existing BPA communications tower. This assessment concluded that visibility of the Project is largely precluded by existing vegetation and buildings, thereby limiting impacts to specific locations within 1 mile of the Albany Substation. **Scenic integrity of the Albany Substation viewer locations would remain the same as existing conditions under Alternatives 2A and 3C.**

Alternative 4: There would be no actions at the Albany Substation under Alternative 4.

8. Cumulative Impacts

The cumulative impact analysis considers potential impacts to scenic resources that could result from the proposed Project under each alternative, combined with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions.

Past actions within the analysis area have altered the natural landscape character through agriculture and community development; addition of residential, commercial, and transportation infrastructure; and operation of recreation and communications facilities within the Marys Peak SBSIA. There are three areas within the SBSIA where electronic communications equipment is located: the summit of Marys Peak; West Ridge, extending west from the summit of Marys Peak approximately 1.5 miles; and the point of the ridge, known as West Point. Collectively, these structures have altered the landscape character such that it appears industrial from some locations; however, due to the existing topography of the SBSIA, portions of the SBSIA are characterized by High scenic integrity outside of the seen area of existing communications structures.

Although these past actions have resulted in changes to landscape character in some portions of Marys Peak, there has not been a continued trend of development in SBSIA that has further altered the landscape character.

Reasonably foreseeable future actions in Benton County primarily focus on roadway and intersection improvements, active transportation (bikeway) improvements, roof replacement at the Fairgrounds Arena, and remodeling of buildings on the Oregon State University Campus (Benton County 2018). There are no planned actions for other new communications structures within the analysis area, including within the SBSIA. Likewise, proposed actions on the Siuslaw National Forest are limited to restoration activities, landscape management, and the development of the Corvallis to Coast Trail (Phase 2) (USFS 2018).

Reasonably foreseeable future actions would not, in combination with past actions, contribute to a trend that would further alter the landscape character.

Alternative 2A

The proposed Project under Alternative 2A, combined with past actions of communications infrastructure, could further alter scenic integrity within a localized area on Marys Peak, specifically at the summit (see KVA 9 and KVA 12), and to a minor extent at the Albany Substation. In combination with the existing communications structure at Marys Peak, the proposed Project would result in increased density and massing of communications equipment at the summit that would also be visible at the Saddle Meadow pullout on Marys Peak Road. At other locations within Marys Peak where the existing and proposed communications structures are not visible, changes in landscape character would not be expected. The proposed Project would contribute to cumulative impacts at the SBSIA. Likewise, the addition of a microwave dish to an existing communications structure at Albany Substation would contribute to cumulative impacts at the Albany Substation, albeit at a minor level.

Alternative 3C

The proposed Project under Alternative 3C, combined with past actions of communications infrastructure, could further alter scenic integrity within a localized area on Marys Peak through introduction of a new structure. Like Alternative 2A, the combination of the existing communications structure and proposed Project would result in increased density and massing of communications equipment at the summit that would also be visible at the Saddle Meadow pullout on Marys Peak Road. At other locations within Marys Peak where the existing and proposed communications structures are not visible, changes in landscape character would not be expected. The proposed Project would contribute to cumulative impacts at the SBSIA. Cumulative impacts at the Albany substation would be identical to that described under Alternative 2A.

Alternative 4

The proposed Project under Alternative 4, combined with past actions of communications infrastructure, would result in an overall improvement to scenic integrity within a localized area on Marys Peak, primarily through removal of existing BPA communications infrastructure on the summit, and resulting decrease in the amount of the summit occupied by the remaining USFS communications infrastructure. This action, combined with not adding an additional lattice structure to the Marys Peak SBSIA, would result in a positive contribution of the Project to overall cumulative impacts at the SBSIA.

9. Plan Conformance Determination

The VQOs establish minimum acceptable thresholds for landscape alterations on lands administered by the USFS. The threshold of effects is considered exceeded if alterations do not meet the scenic integrity and dominance criteria of the VQO. Marys Peak SBSIA is managed to meet the VQO of retention; however, electronic facilities may achieve a modification VQO standard where retention is not practical (USFS 1989). Marys Peak Road is managed as Partial Retention-Foreground and Middleground-Modification (USFS 1990).

Based on the impacts assessment performed for Alternative 2A, Alternative 3C, and Alternative 4, the following determination was made:

The Marys Peak SBSIA Plan specifies that, with the exception of facilities needed for recreation and electronics facilities, the Marys Peak SBSIA is managed to meet the VQO of “Retention” (USFS 1989). The plan indicates that through “creative design of location, materials, forms, colors, and textures, necessary recreation and electronic facilities will be kept as inconspicuous as possible, and will meet the VQO of retention where practicable, but in no case being more dominant than the VQO of modification. Partial retention-foreground and partial retention-middleground VQOs are applied along the Marys Peak

Road" (USFS 1989). Based on these requirements, the Marys Peak SBSIA is managed to meet the VQO of Retention; however, electronic facilities may achieve a Modification VQO standard where retention is not practical (USFS 1989). The Siuslaw National Forest LRMP specifies management of Marys Peak Road (viewshed) as partial retention-foreground and middle ground-modification (USFS 1990).

The impacts assessment presented in Section 7 was used to determine conformance with the visual requirements in the LRMP and SBSIA Plan. Each applicable VQO was considered to be met if the change in scenic integrity and visual dominance that would result from implementation of an alternative would not exceed the requirements of that VQO. Likewise, the VRM Class IV Objective was considered to be met if visual contrast and scale dominance was consistent with this classification. The plan conformance determination is summarized as follows:

- Implementation of Alternative 2A would meet the VQO of modification because operation of the Project on Marys Peak would visually dominate the original characteristic landscape, particularly when viewed from locations at close proximity. This meets the VQO requirement of the SBSIA Plan. Alternative 2A would meet the required VQOs of partial retention-foreground and partial retention-middleground for locations along Marys Peak Road. Tree cutting would be in conformance with the visual standards provided in the LRMP (USFS 1990).
- Implementation of Alternative 2A would not meet the SBSIA Plan requirement that "The electronic equipment will be consolidated into a single structure to reduce visual impacts" (USFS 1989). However, an LRMP amendment would not be required because the following three criteria would still hold true under this alternative: (1) USFS would still manage the Marys Peak summit area, (2) BPA would follow the guidance in the communications site plan, and (3) USFS manages BPA actions within the existing communications site which extends beyond the summit's chain link fence (Hill and Mueller, personal communication, 2017).
- Implementation of Alternative 3C would meet the VQOs required in the SBSIA Plan and the Siuslaw National Forest LRMP because of the removal of the existing BPA communications site and the consolidation of equipment within the USFS building. Although an additional steel-lattice structure would be constructed that would be 20 feet taller than the structure proposed under Alternative 2A, it would still meet the VQO of modification (Hill and Mueller, personal communication, 2017). Similar to Alternative 2A, an LRMP amendment would not be required for the same reasons mentioned previously.
- Implementation of Alternative 4 would meet the VQOs required in the SBSIA Plan and the LRMP of modification because it would remove the existing monopole and communications building at Marys Peak and would not introduce a new steel-lattice structure to the landscape. It would also meet the required VQOs of partial retention-foreground and partial retention-middleground for locations along Marys Peak Road. Tree cutting under Alternative 4 could be visually evident from Marys Peak Road, but it would be subordinate to the characteristic landscape.
- Implementing either Alternative 2A or 3C would meet VRM Class IV objectives where tree-cutting is proposed on BLM-administered lands. Although tree cutting could result in strong visual contrast, VRM Class IV objective allows for a high level of change to the characteristic landscape. The anticipated change would not dominate the view of the casual observer, particularly as initial color change at the location of the cut weathered over time. Because the vertical stature of tree trunks and branches would remain, changes would repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape. Alternative 4 does not include actions on BLM-administered lands.

10. Recommended Visual Mitigation

Mitigating visual impacts that can result from communications facilities presents challenges due to the basic structure, height, siting, and clearing required to ensure communication signals can be transmitted

across long distances. These requirements limit the ability to used vegetation to soften discrete edges and lines of industrial fencing and lattice structures or minimize contrast of microwave dishes.

At the site level, mitigation to reduce visual impacts could consider the following:

If one of the action alternatives is implemented, BPA would implement the following construction BMPs and mitigation measures to avoid or minimize visual resources impacts from the Project.

- Consult with a USFS landscape architect and botanist on the final siting of all site facilities.
- Maintain open views in the site layout to the extent possible.
- Review site, building, propane tank, microwave dish and steel-lattice structure designs with USFS, including the colors and materials to be used, to choose those most visually appropriate with the setting (i.e., natural-appearing palate with low light reflectivity while maintaining low heat absorption colors, matte finish).
- Implement access road improvements in a manner that maintains the scale and character of the existing road, minimizes impacts on shoulders, and maintains the rural setting.
- Maintain the existing color of gravel during any necessary road resurfacing as much as possible.
- Install the HVAC unit on the south-facing wall of the Marys Peak communications building addition (Alternative 3C) to minimize noise and visual impacts to visitors near the picnic table area located north of the communications site.
- Explain visual quality-related BMPs and mitigation measures to construction contractors and inspectors during a preconstruction meeting covering environmental requirements.
- Site all construction staging and storage areas away from locations that would be clearly visible from sensitive viewer groups as much as practicable.
- Provide information to visitors at Marys Peak on how to avoid construction activities as much as possible, including posting Project information and updates on the SNF website and posting and maintaining signs at trail heads and other obvious locations, such as existing signboards at the public parking lot and the campground, so that visitors can have a pleasant visit and experience good views.
- Limit vehicle speeds on unpaved roads and surfaces to 10 miles per hour or less to reduce dust.
- Control dust during construction with water or other appropriate control methods, without the use of chemical additives, as needed.
- Retain shorter stature trees along the Marys Peak roadway edge (Alternative 4) to minimize views of the CPI communications structure from the Marys Peak SBSIA.
- Maintain and clean construction sites as much as practicable and keep construction areas free of debris.
- Allow areas where trees are cleared within the Marys Peak SBSIA to revert to natural non-forested habitat.

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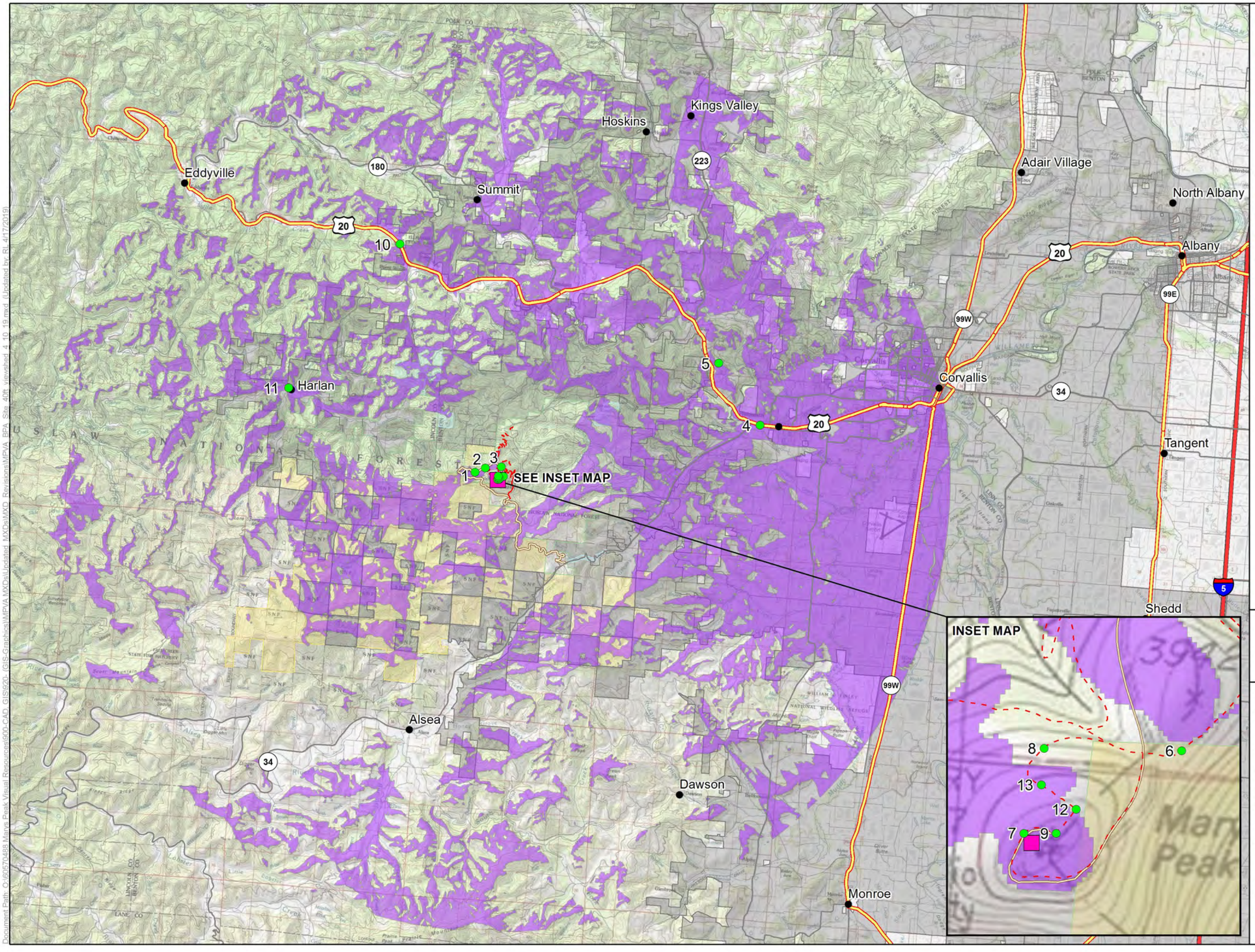
Appendix A. Seen Area Maps



LEGEND

- Existing BPA Site Viewshed Within Study Area
- Marys Peak at Existing BPA Site
- Key Viewing Area
- City/Town

Roads and Trails

- Marys Peak Road
- Interstate
- Highway
- Secondary Road
- Marys Peak Trail

Land Engagement

- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Local Government
- Private

0 1.5 3 Miles

1 inch = 3 miles when printed at 11x17

Marys Peak Communications Project

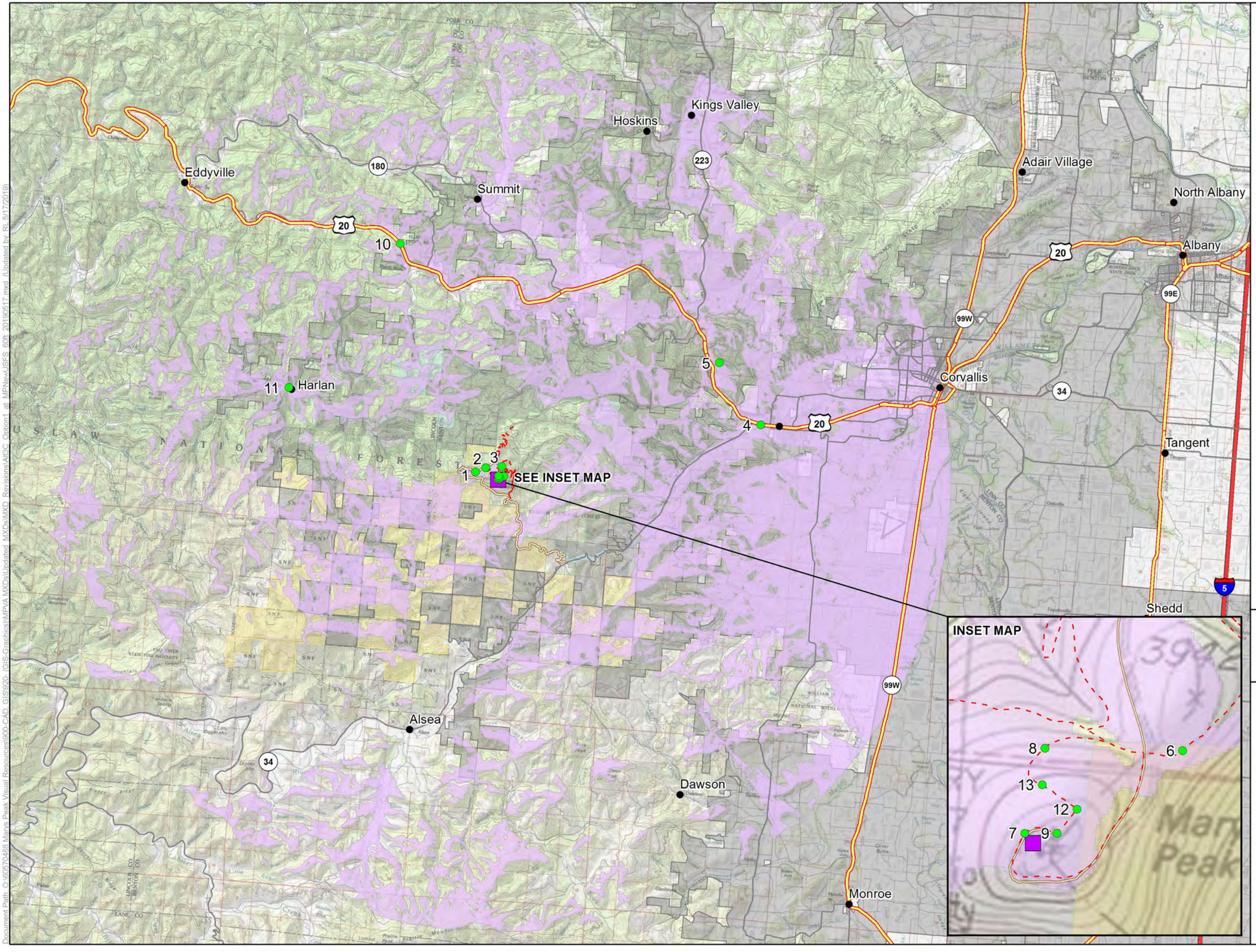
Viewshed Analysis Alternative 2A: Marys Peak at Existing BPA Site

Structure Height: 40ft.

Base Layer: Copyright:© 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed

Map Date: 4/22/2019

Document Path: O:\605\70488 Marys Peak Visual Resources\600-CAD_GIS\620_GIS Graphics\MPVA MXDs\Updated_MXDs\MXD_Revisions\MPVA_BPA_Site_40ft_viewshed_4_10_19.mxd (Updated by: RL 4/17/2019)



LEGEND

- Collocate at New USFS Site Viewshed Within Study Area
- City/Town
- Key Viewing Area
- Marys Peak Collocate at New USFS Site

Roads and Trails

- Marys Peak Road
- Interstate
- Highway
- Secondary Road
- Marys Peak Trail

Land Engagement

- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Local Government
- Private

0 1.5 3 Miles

1 inch = 3 miles when printed at 11x17

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Marys Peak Communications Project

Viewshed Analysis Alternative 3C Option 1: Marys Peak Collocate at New USFS Site

Structure Height: 60ft.

Base Layer: Copyright:© 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed

Map Date: 5/17/2019

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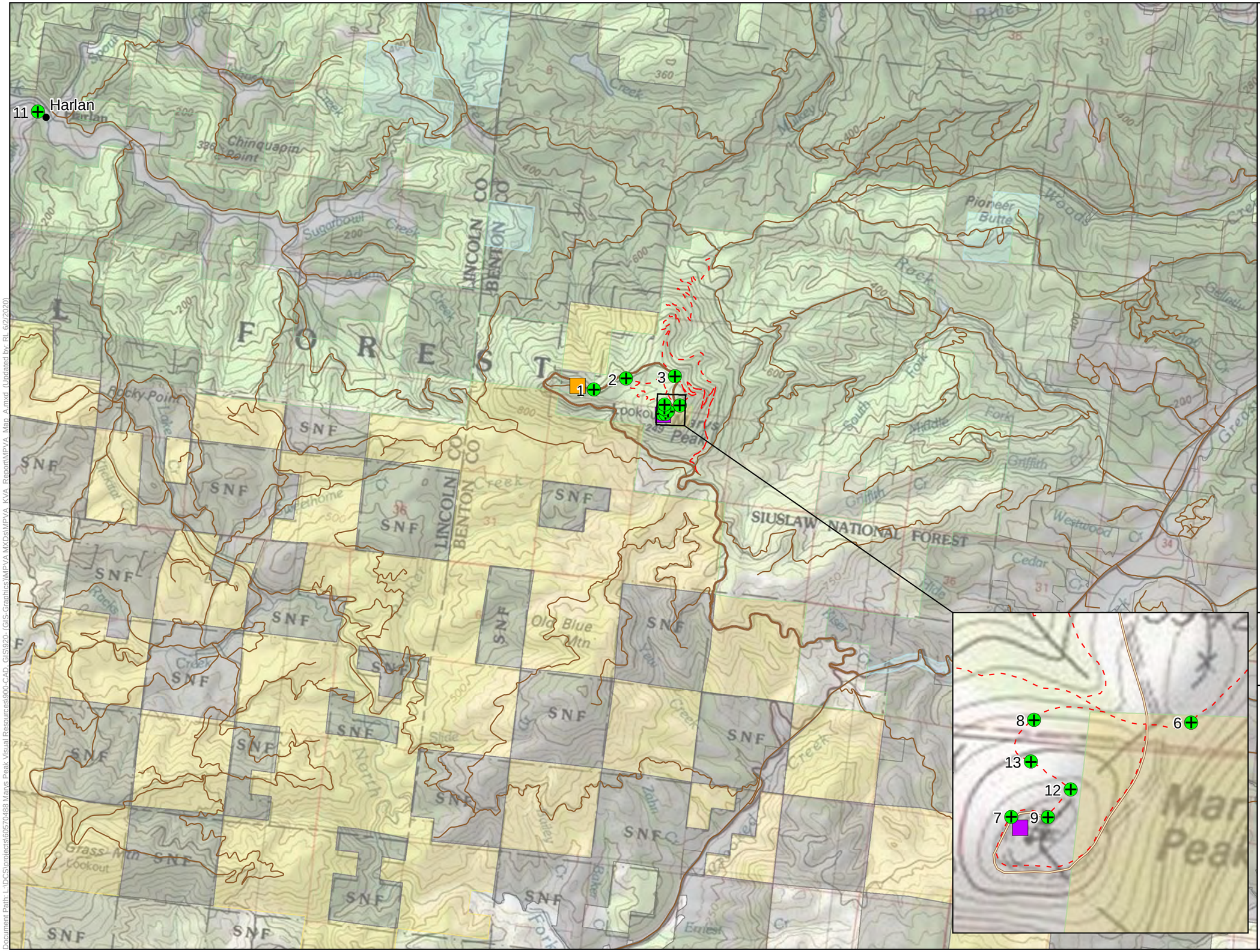
Appendix B. Key Viewing Areas



LEGEND

- Location of Key Viewing Area
- Marys Peak at Existing BPA Site
- West Point Spur
- City/Town

Roads and Trails

- Marys Peak Road
- Local Roads
- Marys Peak Trail

Land Engagement

- Bureau of Land Management
- State
- Local Government
- Private

0 0.5 1 Miles

1 inch = 1 miles
when printed at 11x17

Marys Peak BPA Communications Site Project

Location of Key Viewing Areas

Page A

Service Layer Credits:
Copyright:© 2013 National Geographic Society, i-cubed

Map Date:
7/1/2020

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Appendix C. Summary of Scoping Comments

Appendix B. Summary of Scoping Comments

Marys Peak BPA Communication Site Project

Summary of Scoping Comments

Comments received by BPA during Scoping Meetings held on 9/27 2016 and 12/2/2016are summarized below by comment category and key theme. Emboldened text indicates themes relevant to scenic resources.

Summary of Key themes:

- Preservation of existing views
- Cleaning up of existing site facilities – noxious weeds, chain-link fence, tower materials etc
- Consolidating of buildings, towers and equipment
- The community visits the site to take in the dramatic views
- Spring and summer wildflower meadow provide additional scenic values to the site
- The site provides unique natural beauty, geological, biological, and cultural values
- The site it is easily accessible
- People find a deep cultural and spiritual significance/ connection to Marys Peak – some feel that the summit communications site is harmful to the scenic beauty, tranquility
- Interest in improving the aesthetics of the communications site
- Interest in integrating an overlook platform into a new facility
- Interpretation of the communications tower and the landscape features

  Improving the experience for visitors to the site by addressing visual impacts from the maintenance road and the communications sites

1.1 Marys Peak - importance to the local community, Oregonians, and visitors

- "About BPA's proposed activities at the Marys Peak Communications Project Site: the most significant values for the summit of Marys Peak lie in the non-monetary categories recognized in the establishment of **the Marys Peak Scenic Botanic Special Interest Area--among them are conservation and maintenance of the rare meadow and rock garden plant communities**, **preserving the scenic nature of the Peak, and encouraging the aesthetic, cultural, and spiritual use of the Peak by members of the tribal, local, regional, state, national, and international communities."** (Comment 0023, McCain)

- Statement that many **hikers love and honor Marys Peak and it is an important part of the lives** of the local communities and an important resource for Oregonians (Public Meeting Comment 0021)

- "I have been going up to Marys Peak since **I was a kid. And whenever we have guests from out of town, we take them up to the Peak for a hike. It is a beautiful and special place**. However, every time I climb up to the summit of Marys Peak, I am disappointed and ashamed of the ugly mess of metal and concrete fenced in there. This should be a sacred place for all the public to share. I urge the BPA to identify an alternate site to put their equipment, leading the way to restore the Marys Peak summit to its original beauty." (Comment 0008, Heath)

- "The role of public comment is so vital as so many Oregonians and **visitors come for the spectacular view."** (Comment 0016, Harris)

- "…numerous individuals, families and organizations continue to use the peak for **hiking and other outdoor recreation.**" (Comment 13, Lillie)

- "Marys Peak is indeed a wonderful place for people to enjoy. It is owned by all of us, and provides benefits to the entire region. In addition to **the unique natural beauty, geological, biological, and cultural values, it also provides a critical component of the regional communications infrastructure for a large number of agencies and organizations**." (Comment 0012, Kearl/Several)

- "Wild represents 17,000 members and supporters who share our mission to protect and restore Oregon's wildlands, wildlife, and waters. **The summit of Mary's Peak is a special place that is visited by thousands of people each year.**" (Comment 0022, Heiken/Oregon Wild)

- "As the BPA is also a federal agency that manages with the benefits to the US public as a whole, it seems appropriate that the BPA take seriously the duty to preserve the larger values of Marys Peak Scenic Botanic Area: **its long history, its deep cultural meaning to local tribes, and the abiding love of local citizens for the outstanding ecological and aesthetic character of the site."** (Comment 0023, McCain)

- **"The top of Marys Peak is a unique and beautiful place, as attested to in the proposal for its establishment as a Scenic Botanical Special Interest Area** by the Siuslaw National Forest in 1989." (Comment 0024, Watrous)

1.2 Value of Marys Peak as a communications site (BPA site and/or USFS site)

- **"In addition to the unique natural beauty, geological, biological, and cultural values, it also provides a critical component of the regional communications infrastructure for a large number of agencies and organizations.** This "high ground" is very valuable for radio communications that rely on line-of-sight signal propagation. A variety of life safety-critical communications utilize this unique location. Fire and emergency medical responders in Benton County depend on this site for a significant portion of their communications, especially in the rural parts of the county. Wildland fire dispatch, transportation infrastructure, natural resource agencies, and law enforcement users are also on this site. BPA's communications equipment is critical for the safe and reliable operation of our regional power grid. Additionally, the amateur radio repeater on this site is a highly valued resource for emergency communications, including wilderness search and rescue and regional disaster response." (Comment 0012, Kearl/Several)

1.3 Scenic and visual resources and aesthetics

- Statements from some people who regularly visit Marys Peak to hike and enjoy the natural beauty that they are concerned that the **summit communications site is harmful to the scenic beauty, tranquility, and natural plant communities on Marys Peak** (Public Meeting Comment 0021)

- Statement that **an unobstructed 360 degree view from the summit is important** (Public Meeting Comment 0021)

- "Marys Peak is not just another communications site. It is one of the most unique recreational sites on the west coast. Where else can the ordinary citizen **drive to the top of the highest mountain around - on a paved road in an ordinary passenger car - and enjoy the splendid vista of the Cascade Mountains from Washington to California, with the Willamette Valley spread out below, and a view of the Coast Range and the Pacific Ocean?"** (Comment 0009, Hays)

- "How visible will new equipment be from the lower parking lot and will this be a problem, possibly not as other **areas to the south are very visible with tree removal, thinning, wind and snow loss of trees to the south."** (Comment 32, Foster)

- "Marys Peak is a **unique public place with irreplaceable natural and scenic assts**. It has been designated a Special Botanical Special Interest area as well as having **deep cultural and spiritual significance.** There are not alternatives to replace the unique assets of Marys Peak." (Comment 0027, Tappon)

- "Marys Peak is the highest mountain in the Oregon coast range. It offers spectacular views of the Cascades, Willamette Valley and the coast. **The communications structures and fencing on the peak are a visual blight and seed uncontrolled noxious weeds through the fence to the surrounding unique botanical habitats."** (Comment 0030, Wastrous)

- "I have been going up to Marys Peak since I was a kid. And whenever we have guests from out of town, we take them up to the Peak for a hike. It is a beautiful and special place. However, every time I climb up to the summit of Marys Peak, I **am disappointed and ashamed of the ugly mess of metal and concrete fenced in there. This should be a sacred place for all the public to share. I urge the BPA to identify an alternate site to put their equipment, leading the way to restore the Marys Peak summit to its original beauty."** (Comment 0008, Heath)
- **"Wildflower blooms in spring and summer add to the beautiful vistas. There is no other place like it.** About 100,000 people visit the mountain yearly to enjoy these amenities." (Comment 0009, Hays)

- **Statements that the fence around the summit communications site is ugly and that it seems like an imposition in this natural area** (Public Meeting Comment 0021)

- **"Please have your studies look at replacing the tall unsightly and ineffective summit security fence with more effective technology."** (Comment 0003, Barton)

- Suggestion that a **fence made out of boulders would be more attractive than the existing black chain link fence** (Public Meeting Comment 0021)

- **Suggestion that an observation platform be constructed on the summit** of Marys Peak for the use of the general public (Public Meeting Comment 0021)

- "Please have your studies look at if you cannot significantly **impact the environment and the cultural and aesthetic concerns of what is recognized as a recognized Scenic** and Botanic Special Interest Area, beyond what is currently in place, without mitigation." (Comment 0004, Fairchild/Audubon Society of Corvallis)

- **"If it will remain in place, please upgrade it without expanding the footprint and with the least impact to the natural area. Please work to minimize the visual impact."** (Comment 0026, Vega)

- Clearly this place should not be desecrated by the **hideously ugly communication site** at the most important botanical, cultural, recreational and scenic spot in the entire Coast Range!" (Comment 0009, Hays)

- "Please consider the **BEAUTY of the area which is being marred by the unsightly equipment**." (Comment 0016, Harris)

- "The role of public comment is so vital as so many Oregonians and visitors come for the spectacular view." (Comment 0016, Harris)

- "If there is no other viable site other than the top of Marys Peak, options such as **working within a plan to house equipment on top of a more aesthetically-pleasing structure** (such as a pubic observation tower) should be considered." (Comment 0014, Weeks)

- "Early on, it was clear that this peak, as a high elevation point within the entire Coastal range of Oregon was **a vantage point for observations visually of its surroundings."** (Comment 0019, Hackleman)

- "…2) **Enhance the appearance of the summit communications infrastructure. Consider consolidation of the structures on the Marys Peak summit into one building, and a small number of relatively short communication towers.** The design of this new building should include aesthetic as well as functional considerations." (Comment 0012, Kearl/Several)

- **"The lower the number of equipment on the new pole the better for site pollution,** and safety of humans and animals from low and high frequency emission/wavelengths of signal received and transfered from this equipment if this is to occur." (Comment 32, Foster)

- "For the current project TEP-CSB-1, how high will a single new pole be and can/will it remain about the same height as the current wood post? **For visual reasons, and less site pollution, from any location of observation, a pole the same height as the existing wood pole may be acceptable.**" (Comment 32, Foster)

- "A pole which is higher, wider, shiny, and is seen from every location on the Peak and off the Peak from Corvallis may be less expectable. With pole upgrade to metal, what else will be attached to this new pole? Can the pole be painted darker color then white, or shiny metal to decrease site pollution from peak and surrounding view sheds." (Comment 32, Foster)

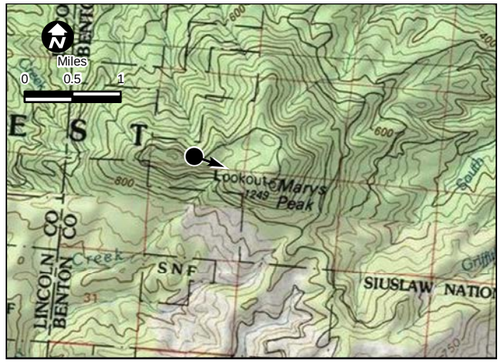
- "Will other agency gear be applied to this new pole as new real estate for profit business at this location?" (Comment 32, Foster)

- "Will more communication equipment for state and federal agencies by placed on the new pole, increasing the site's visible clutter?" (Comment 32, Foster)

- "Since the BPA is contributing to the negative visual **impacts from the equipment, road access, buildings, and fencing, if the BPA fails to relocate, then the BPA should collaborate with the USFS in providing for improving the experience for visitors to the site that can still take place, in partial compensation for the ugliness and intrusiveness of the facilities on the Peak."** (Comment 0023, McCain)

- "Providing support (financial, in kind, etc.) for protecting the fragile vegetation, and **interpreting the views and values of the site (signage, etc.) in a style that complements the nature and history of the Peak would at least somewhat balance the negative effect that the BPA equipment has, both in the past, the present, and the future."** (Comment 0023, McCain)

Appendix D. Baseline Photographs and Photosimulations



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

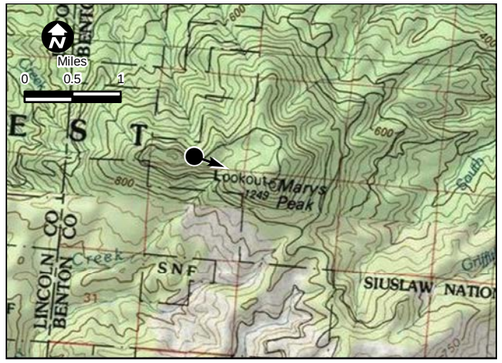
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	3:04 PM
Date of photograph:	5-17-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	East
Latitude:	44°30’25.30”N
Longitude:	123°34’8.32”W

Existing Conditions
Key Viewing Area 1
Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

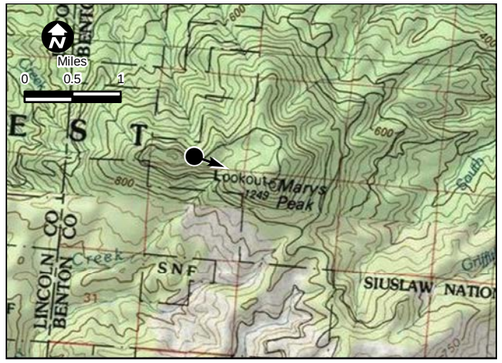
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	3:04 PM
Date of photograph:	5-17-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	East
Latitude:	44°30’25.30”N
Longitude:	123°34’8.32”W

Alternative 2A Simulation
Key Viewing Area 1
Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

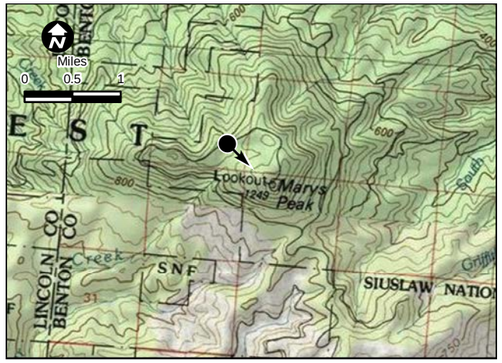
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	3:04 PM
Date of photograph:	5-17-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	East
Latitude:	44°30’25.30”N
Longitude:	123°34’8.32”W

Alternative 3C Simulation
Key Viewing Area 1
Marys Peak Road at Saddle Meadow Pullout

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

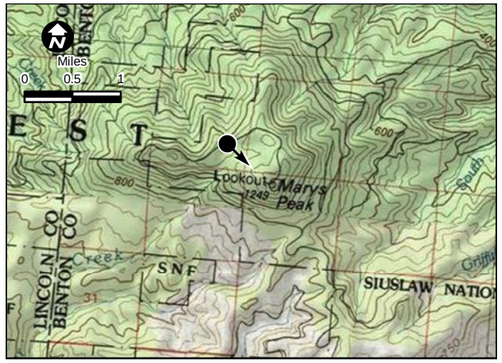
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	12:32 PM
Date of photograph:	6-1-18
Weather condition:	Cloudy
Viewing direction:	Southeast
Latitude:	44°30’35.66”N
Longitude:	123°33’38.65”W

Existing Conditions
Key Viewing Area 2
Marys Peak Campground
(Site Number 2)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

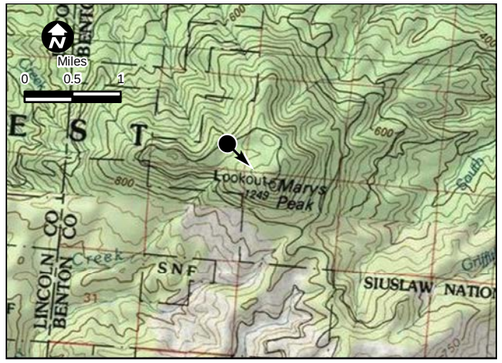
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	12:32 PM
Date of photograph:	6-1-18
Weather condition:	Cloudy
Viewing direction:	Southeast
Latitude:	44°30’35.66”N
Longitude:	123°33’38.65”W

Alternative 2A Simulation
Key Viewing Area 2
Marys Peak Campground
(Site Number 2)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

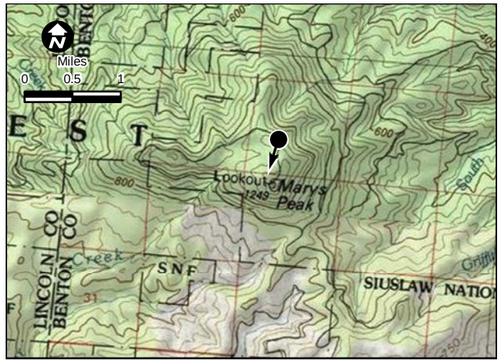
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	12:32 PM
Date of photograph:	6-1-18
Weather condition:	Cloudy
Viewing direction:	Southeast
Latitude:	44°30’35.66”N
Longitude:	123°33’38.65”W

Alternative 3C Simulation
Key Viewing Area 2
Marys Peak Campground
(Site Number 2)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Viewing Area

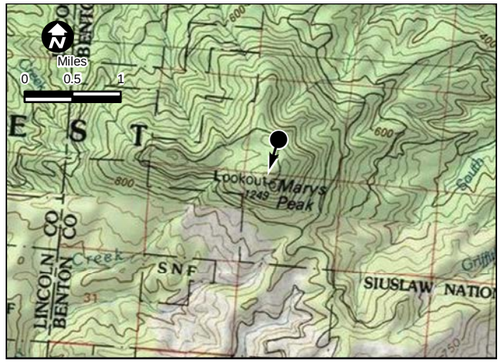
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	10:03 AM
Date of photograph:	5-17-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	South
Latitude:	44°30’37.52”N
Longitude:	123°33’2.82”W

Existing Conditions Key Viewing Area 3 Parking Area at Marys Peak Road

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



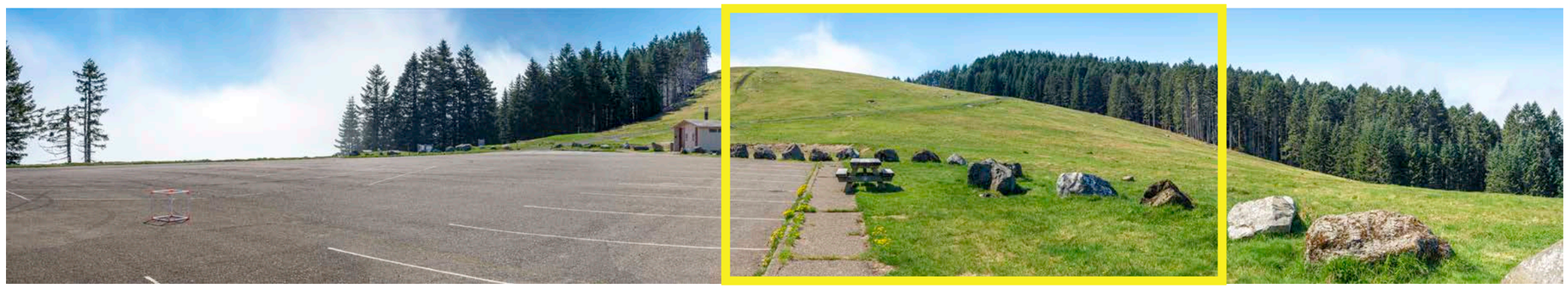
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Viewing Area

Photograph Information

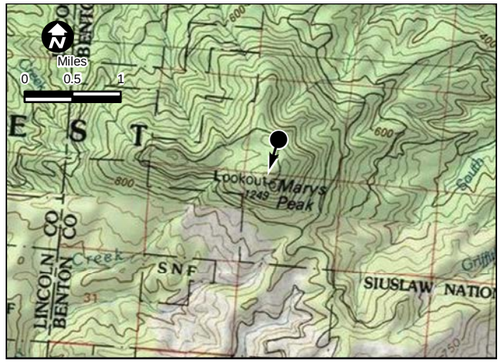
Time of photograph:	10:03 AM
Date of photograph:	5-17-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	South
Latitude:	44°30’37.52”N
Longitude:	123°33’2.82”W



Alternative 2A Simulation
Key Viewing Area 3
Parking Area at
Marys Peak Road

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



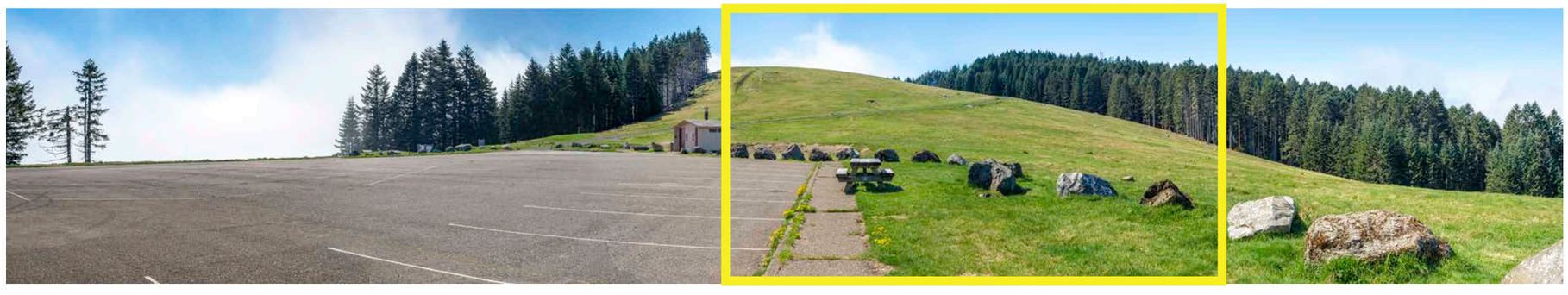
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Viewing Area

Photograph Information

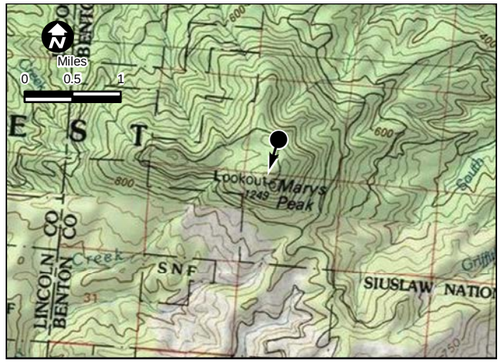
Time of photograph:	10:03 AM
Date of photograph:	5-17-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	South
Latitude:	44°30’37.52”N
Longitude:	123°33’2.82”W



Alternative 3C Simulation
Key Viewing Area 3
Parking Area at
Marys Peak Road

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Viewing Area

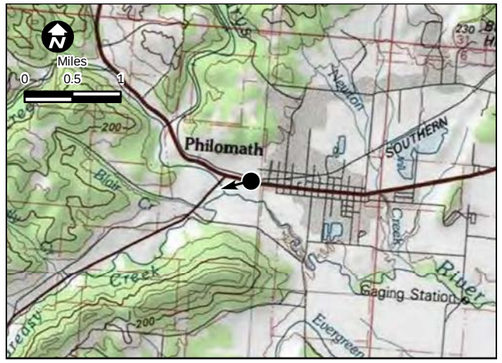
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	10:03 AM
Date of photograph:	5-17-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	South
Latitude:	44°30’37.52”N
Longitude:	123°33’2.82”W

Alternative 4 Simulaton
Key Viewing Area 3
Parking Area at
Marys Peak Road

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

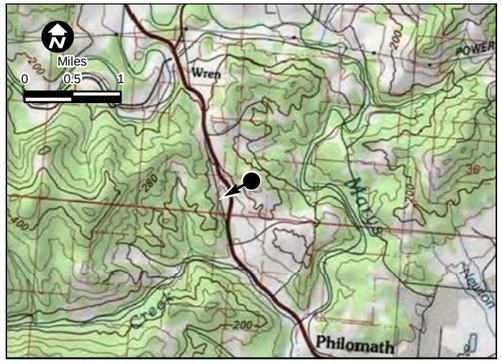
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	10:25 AM
Date of photograph:	6-1-18
Weather condition:	Cloudy
Viewing direction:	West
Latitude:	44°32’23.91”N
Longitude:	123°22’49.23”W

Existing Conditions
Key Viewing Area 4
City of Philomath

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



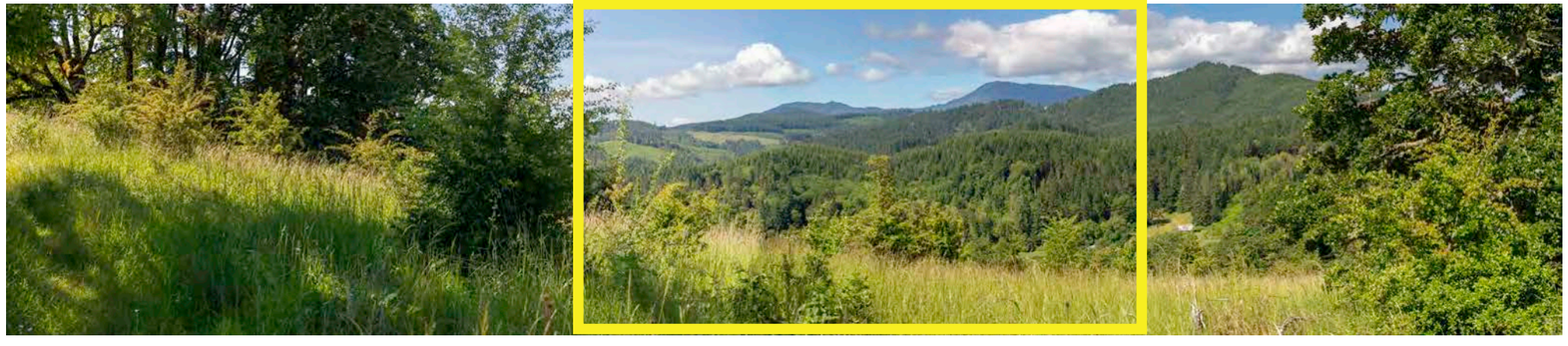
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

Photograph Information

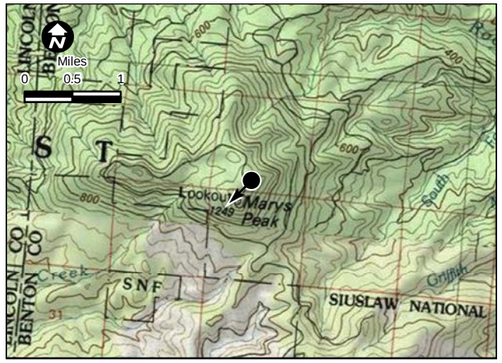
Time of photograph:	9:20 AM
Date of photograph:	6-1-18
Weather condition:	Cloudy
Viewing direction:	Southwest
Latitude:	44°34’6.21”N
Longitude:	123°24’39.89”W



Existing Conditions
Key Viewing Area 5
Wren Hill

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



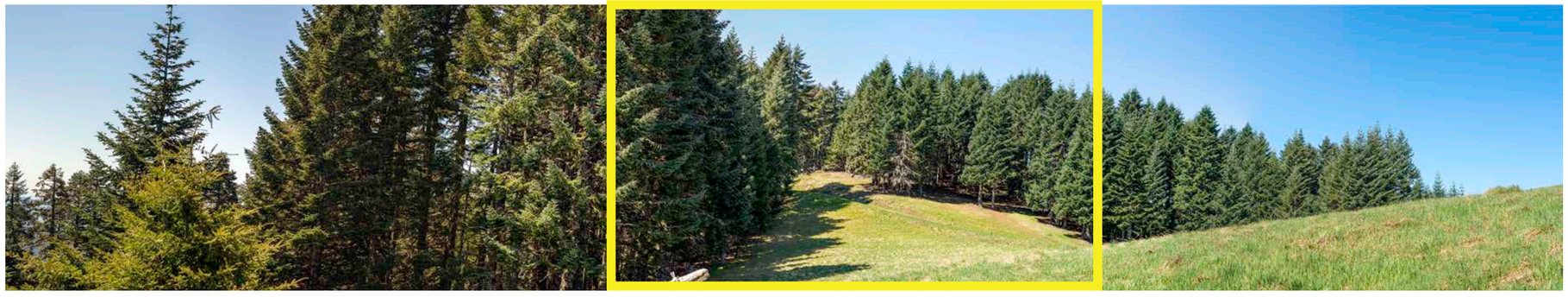
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

Photograph Information

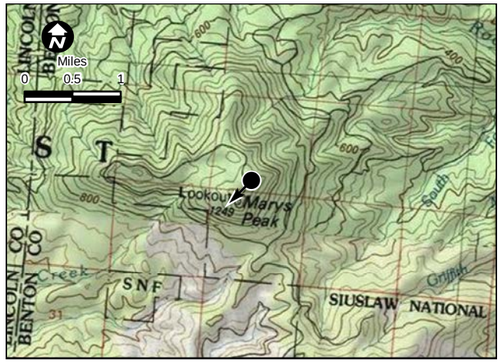
Time of photograph:	9:53 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Southwest
Latitude:	44°30’23.84”N
Longitude:	123°32’56.42”W



Existing Conditions
Key Viewing Area 6
Summit Trail (Lower Portion)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



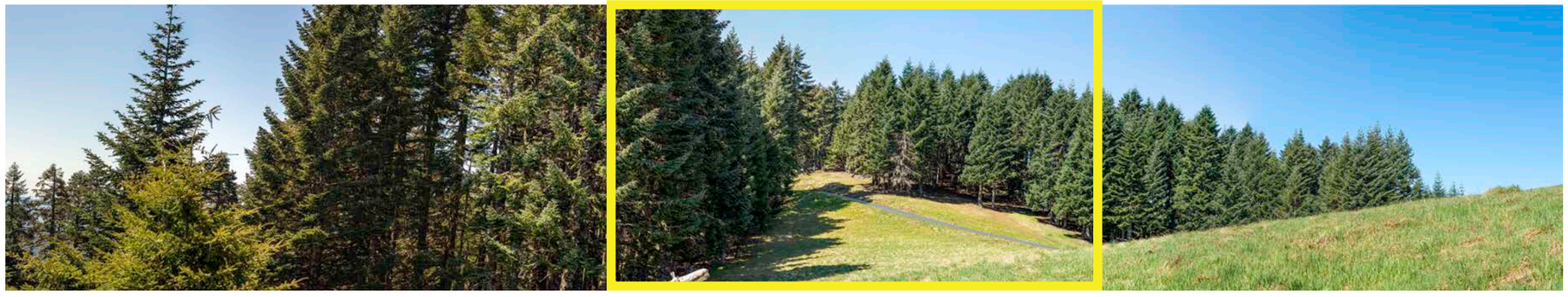
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

Photograph Information

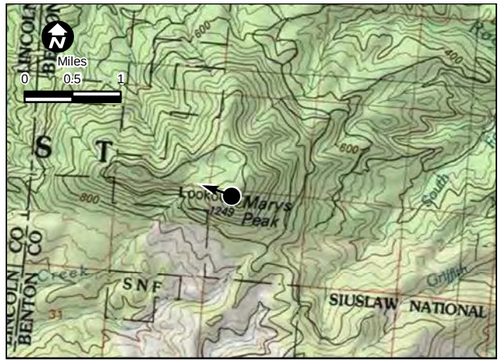
Time of photograph:	9:53 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Southwest
Latitude:	44°30’23.84”N
Longitude:	123°32’56.42”W



Alternative 3C Simulation
Key Viewing Area 6
Summit Trail (Lower Portion)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



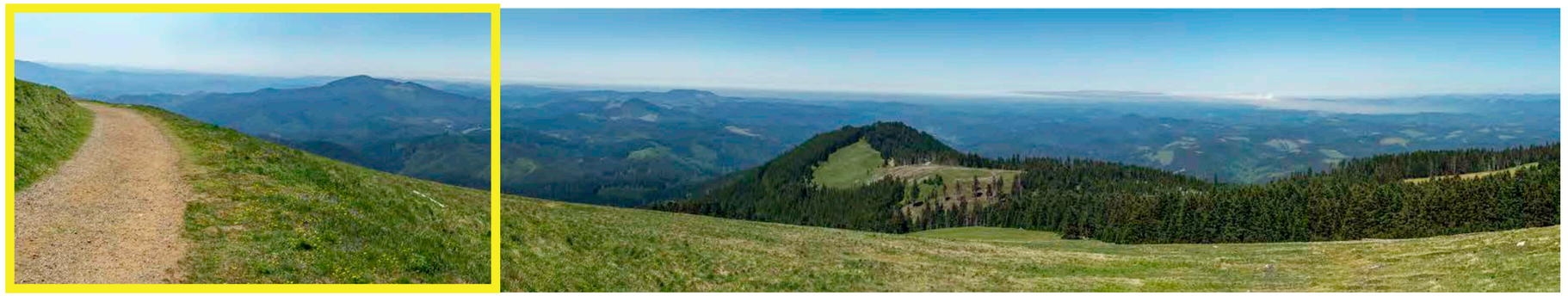
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

Photograph Information

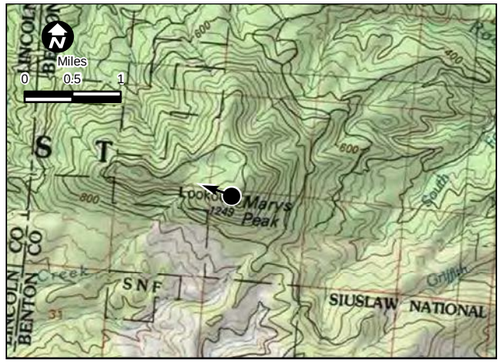
Time of photograph:	11:32 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	West
Latitude:	44°30’16.12”N
Longitude:	123°33’10.79”W



Existing Conditions
Key Viewing Area 7
Marys Peak Access Road
(View Directed West)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



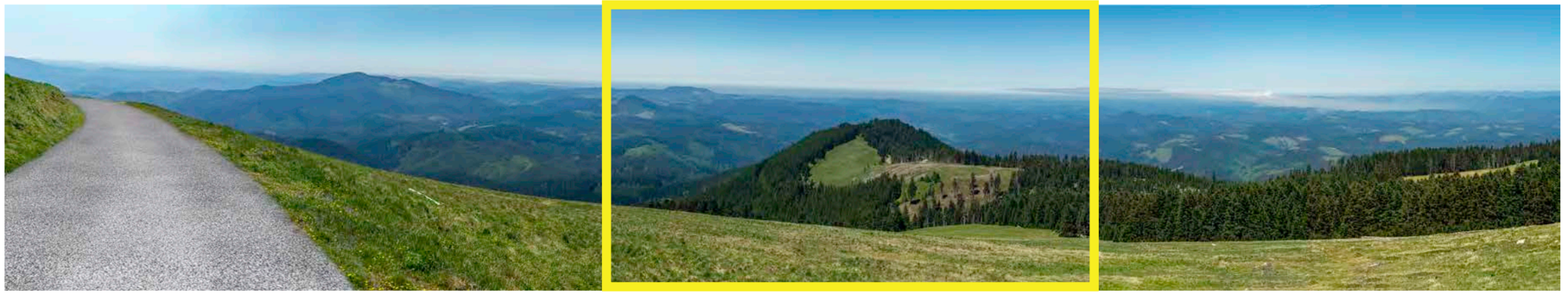
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

Photograph Information

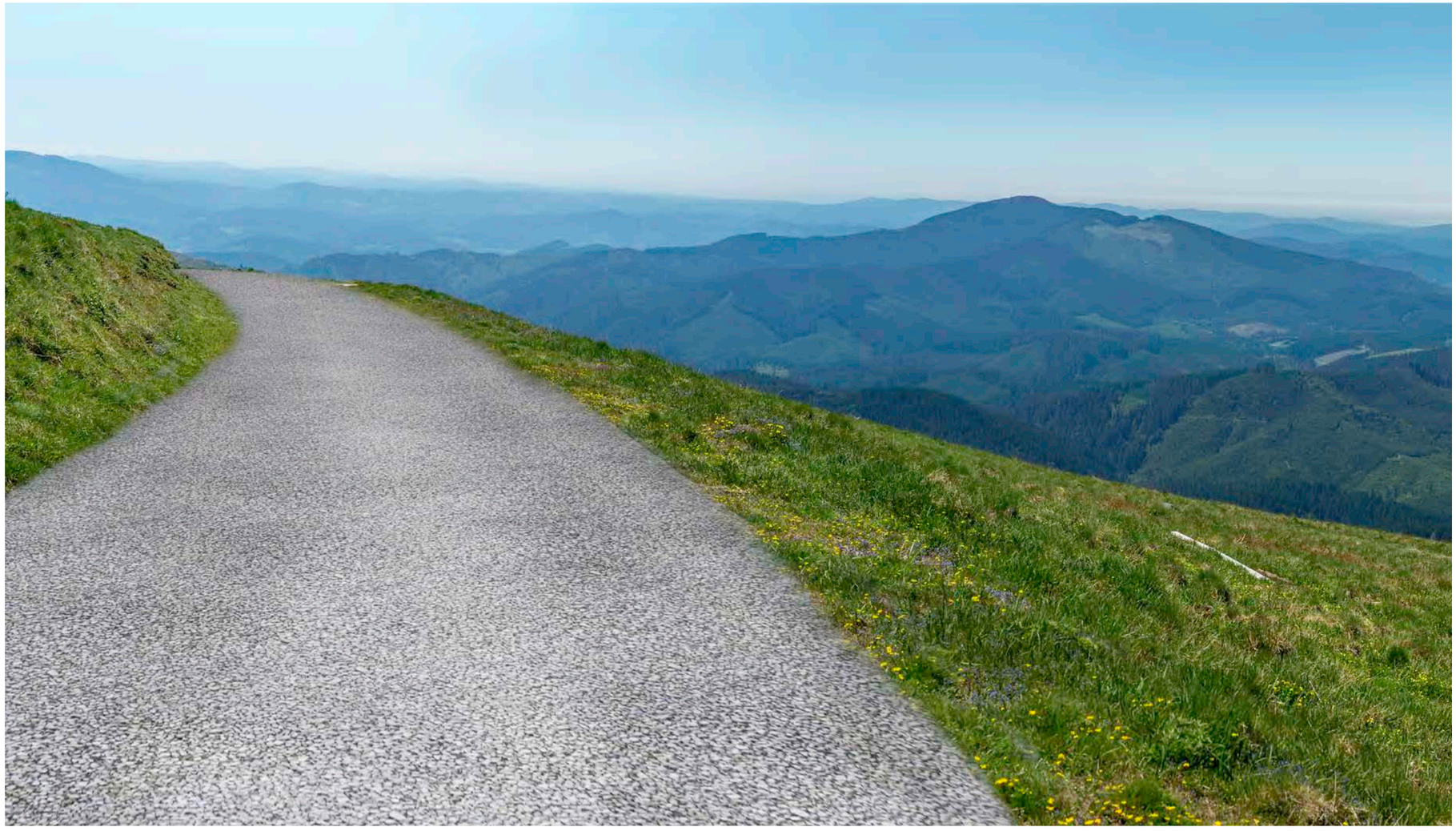
Time of photograph:	11:32 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	West
Latitude:	44°30’16.12”N
Longitude:	123°33’10.79”W

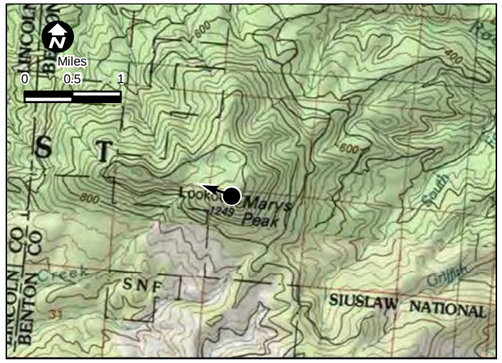


Alternative 4 Simulaton
Key Viewing Area 7
Marys Peak Access Road
(View Directed West)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020





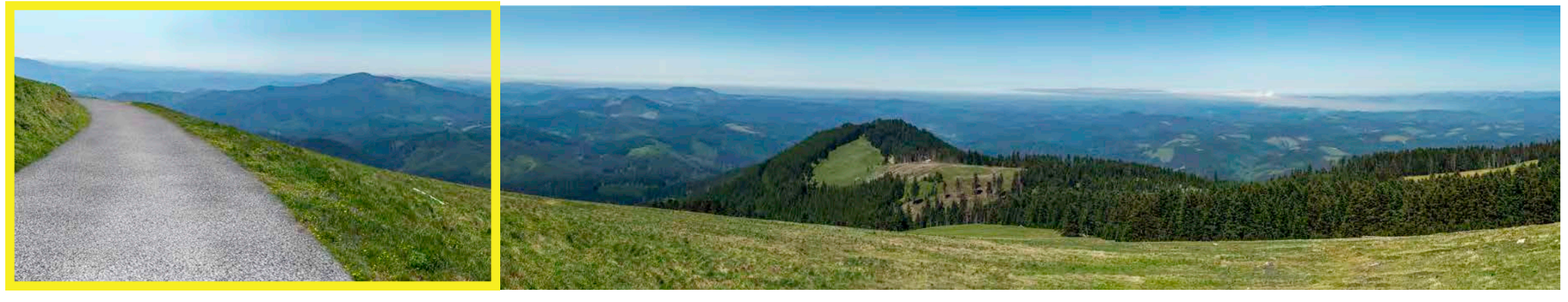
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

Photograph Information

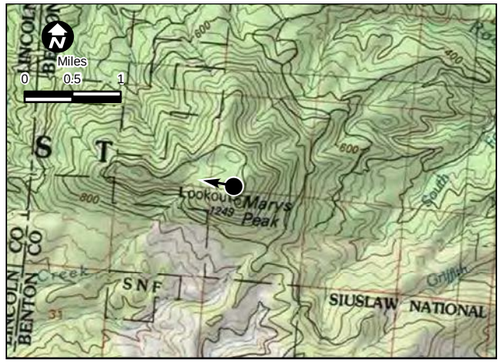
Time of photograph:	11:32 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	West
Latitude:	44°30’16.12”N
Longitude:	123°33’10.79”W



Simulation of Road
Key Viewing Area 7
Marys Peak Access Road
(View Directed South)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

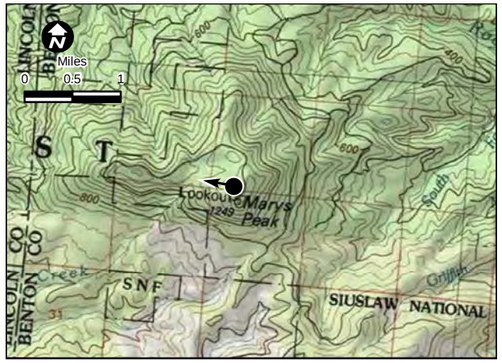
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	3:02 PM
Date of photograph:	6-1-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	West
Latitude:	44°30’21.47”N
Longitude:	123°33’9.65”W

Existing Conditions Key Viewing Area 8 Meadowedge Trail (Lower Portion)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

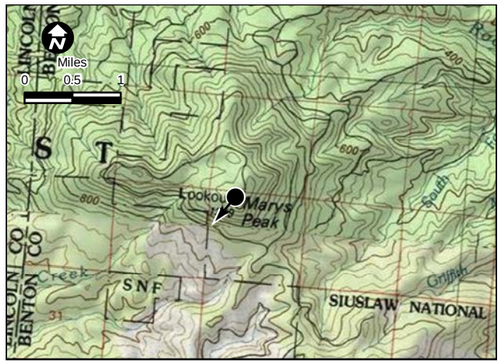
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	3:02 PM
Date of photograph:	6-1-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	West
Latitude:	44°30’21.47”N
Longitude:	123°33’9.65”W

Alternative 4 Simulation
Key Viewing Area 8
Meadowedge Trail
(Lower Portion)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

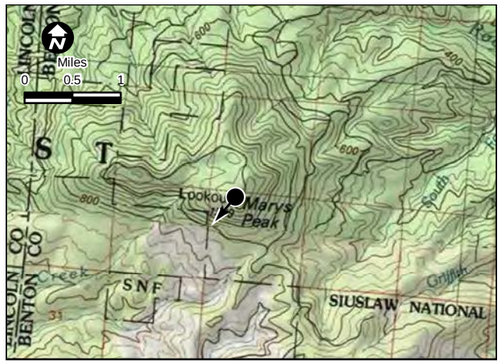
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	10:40 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Southwest
Latitude:	44°30’16.27”N
Longitude:	123°33’8.00”W

Existing Conditions
Key Viewing Area 9
Marys Peak Summit
(Picnic Table)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Viewing Area

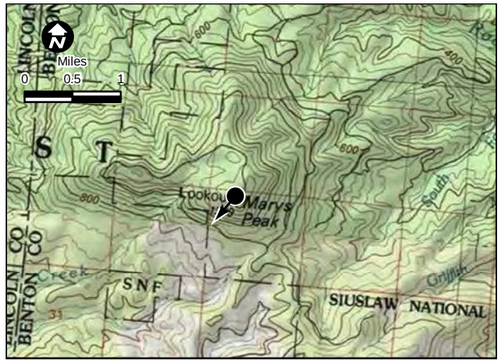
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	10:40 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Southwest
Latitude:	44°30’16.27”N
Longitude:	123°33’8.00”W

Alternative 2A Simulation
Key Viewing Area 9
Marys Peak Summit
(Picnic Table)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Viewing Area

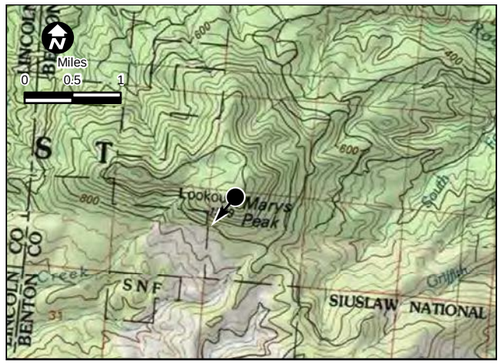
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	10:40 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Southwest
Latitude:	44°30’16.27”N
Longitude:	123°33’8.00”W

Alternative 3C Simulation
Key Viewing Area 9
Marys Peak Summit
(Picnic Table)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

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Key Observation Point

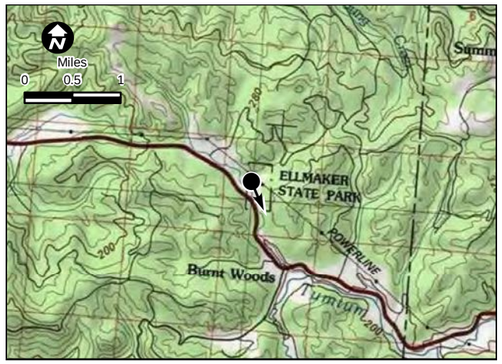
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	10:40 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Southwest
Latitude:	44°30’16.27”N
Longitude:	123°33’8.00”W

Alternative 4 Simulation
Key Viewing Area 9
Marys Peak Summit
(Picnic Table)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

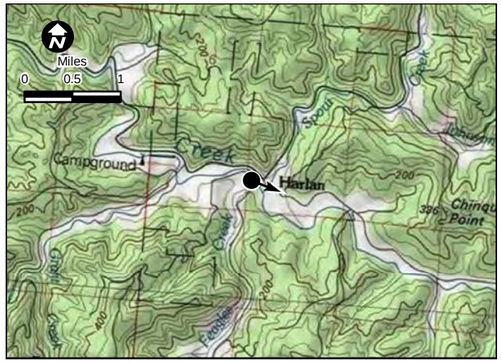
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	2:37 PM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Southeast
Latitude:	44°36’48.42”N
Longitude:	123°37’51.02”W

Existing Conditions
Key Viewing Area 10
Highway 20

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



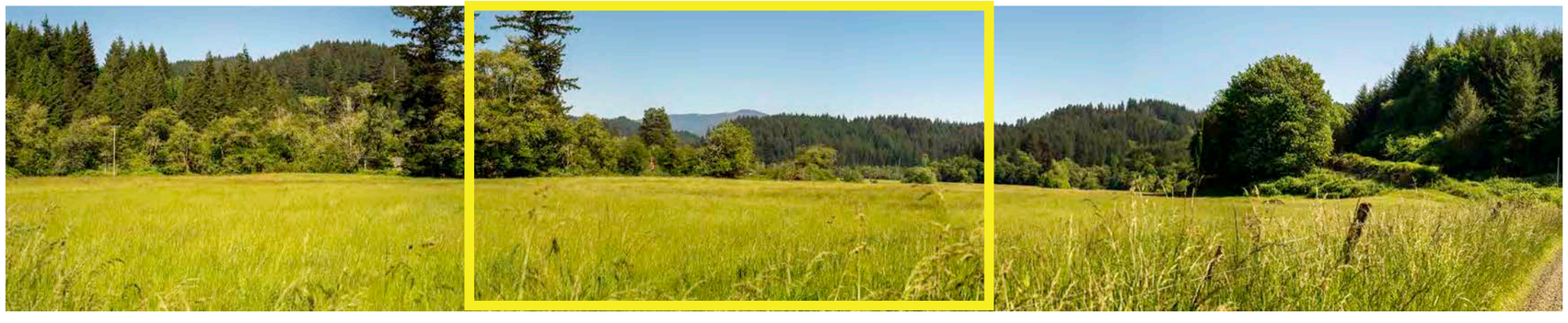
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

Photograph Information

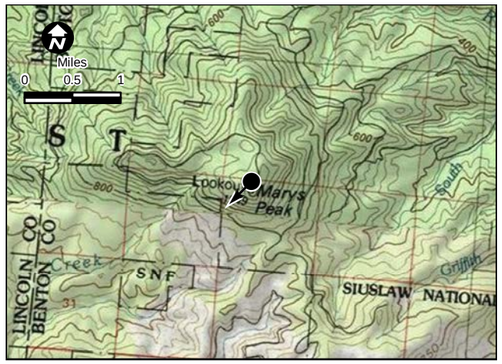
Time of photograph:	3:10 PM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	East
Latitude:	44°32’24.88”N
Longitude:	123°41’51.75”W



Existing Conditions
Key Viewing Area 11
Community of Harlan

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



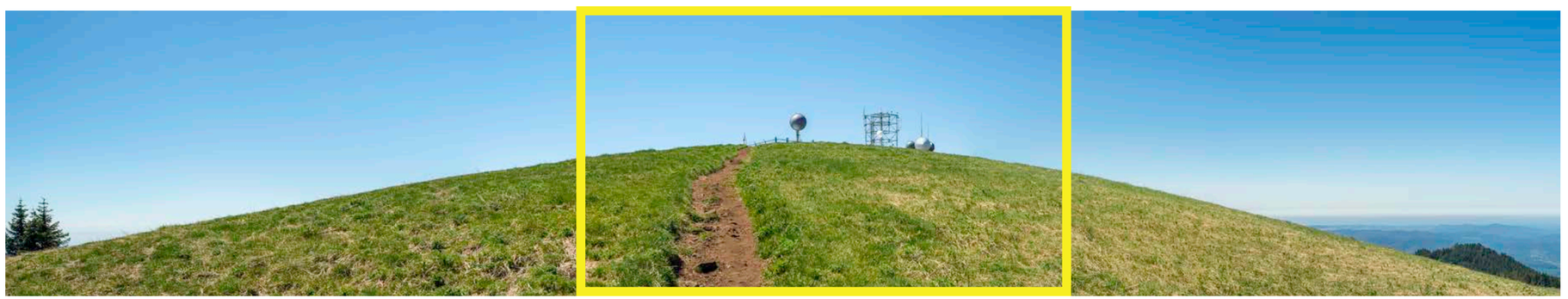
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

Photograph Information

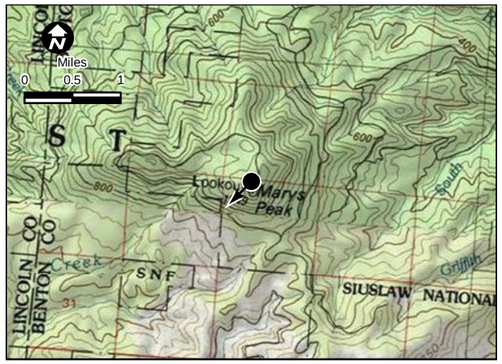
Time of photograph:	11:19 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Southwest
Latitude:	44°30’17.86”N
Longitude:	123°33’6.45”W



Existing Conditions
Key Viewing Area 12
Marys Peak Summit and Meadowedge Trail Intersection

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

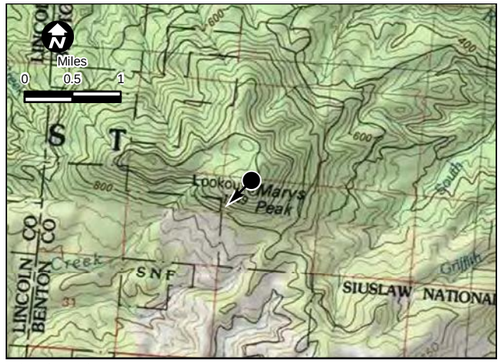
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	11:19 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Southwest
Latitude:	44°30’17.86”N
Longitude:	123°33’6.45”W

Alternative 2A Simulation
Key Viewing Area 12
Marys Peak Summit and Meadowedge Trail Intersection

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Viewing Area

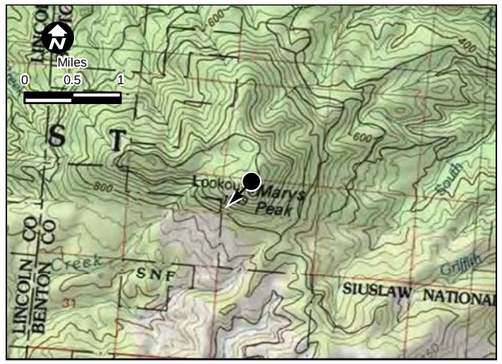
Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	11:19 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Southwest
Latitude:	44°30’17.86”N
Longitude:	123°33’6.45”W

Alternative 3C Simulation
Key Viewing Area 12
Marys Peak Summit and Meadowedge Trail Intersection

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



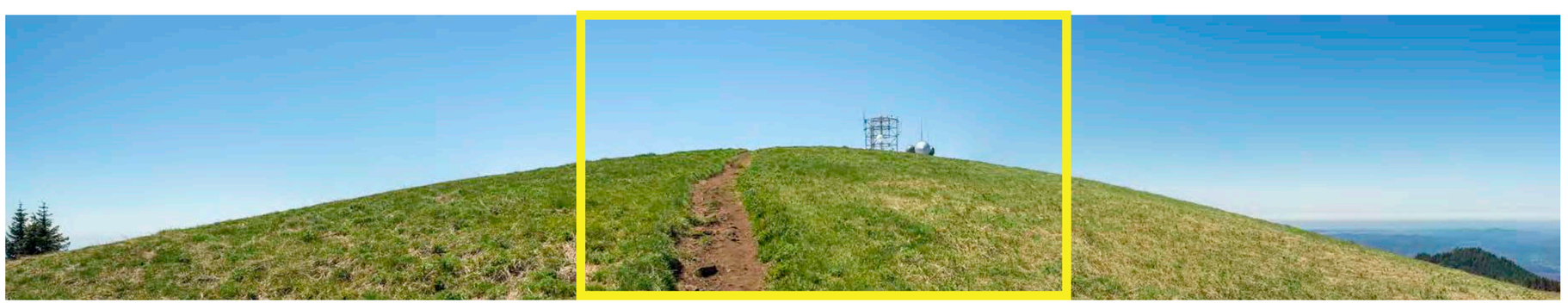
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

Photograph Information

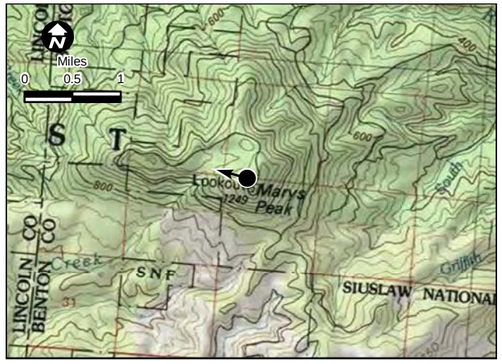
Time of photograph:	11:19 AM
Date of photograph:	5-22-18
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Southwest
Latitude:	44°30’17.86”N
Longitude:	123°33’6.45”W



Alternative 4 Simulation
Key Viewing Area 12
Marys Peak Summit and Meadowedge Trail Intersection

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



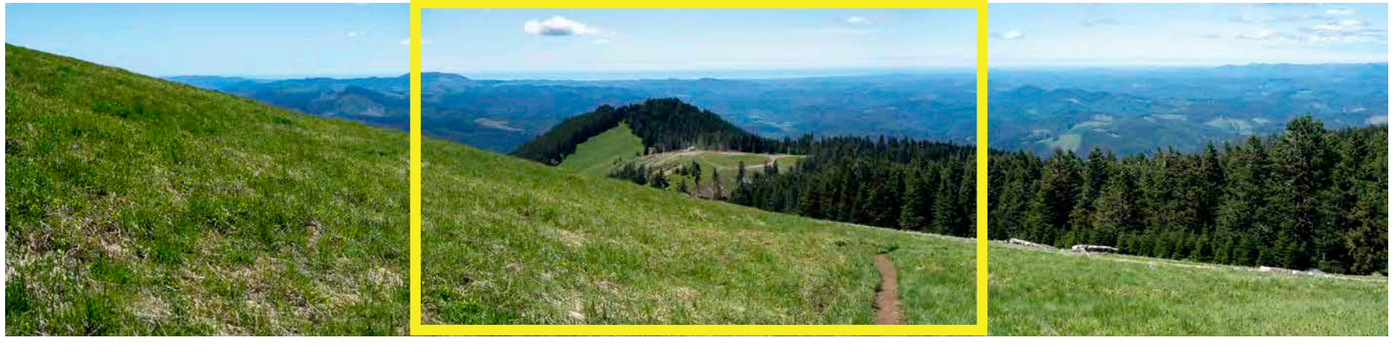
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

Photograph Information

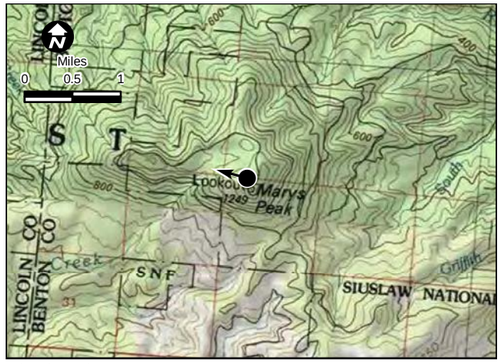
Time of photograph:	1:40 PM
Date of photograph:	6-1-18
Weather condition:	Partly Cloudy
Viewing direction:	West
Latitude:	44°30’19.20”N
Longitude:	123°33’9.64”W



Existing Conditions
Key Viewing Area 13
Meadowedge Trail
(Upper Portion)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



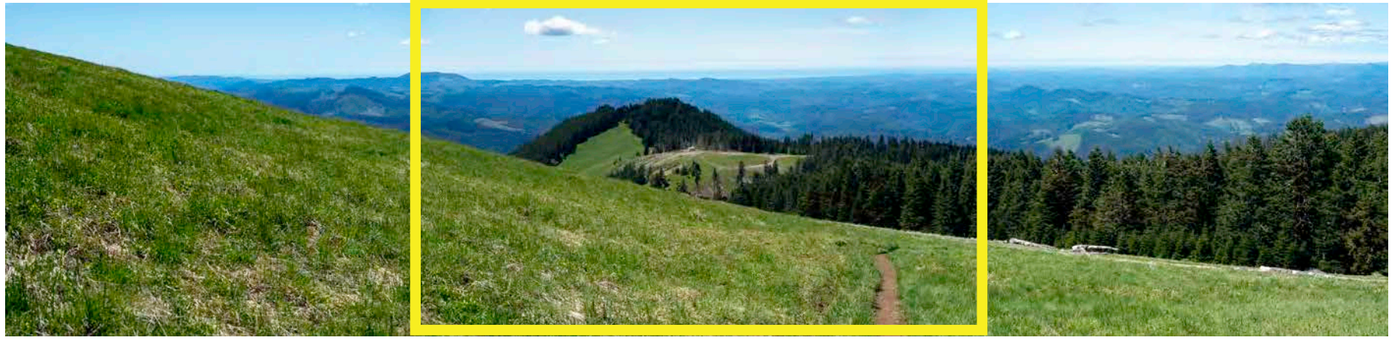
Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

Photograph Information

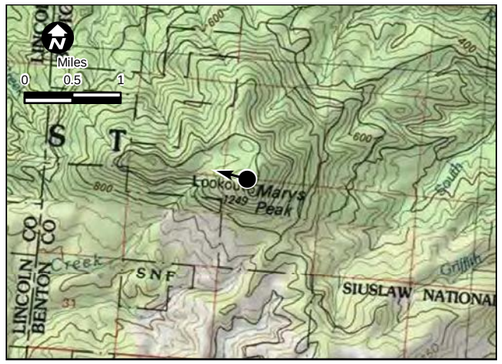
Time of photograph:	1:40 PM
Date of photograph:	6-1-18
Weather condition:	Partly Cloudy
Viewing direction:	West
Latitude:	44°30’19.20”N
Longitude:	123°33’9.64”W



Alternative 4 Simulation
Key Viewing Area 13
Meadowedge Trail
(Upper Portion)

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020



Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

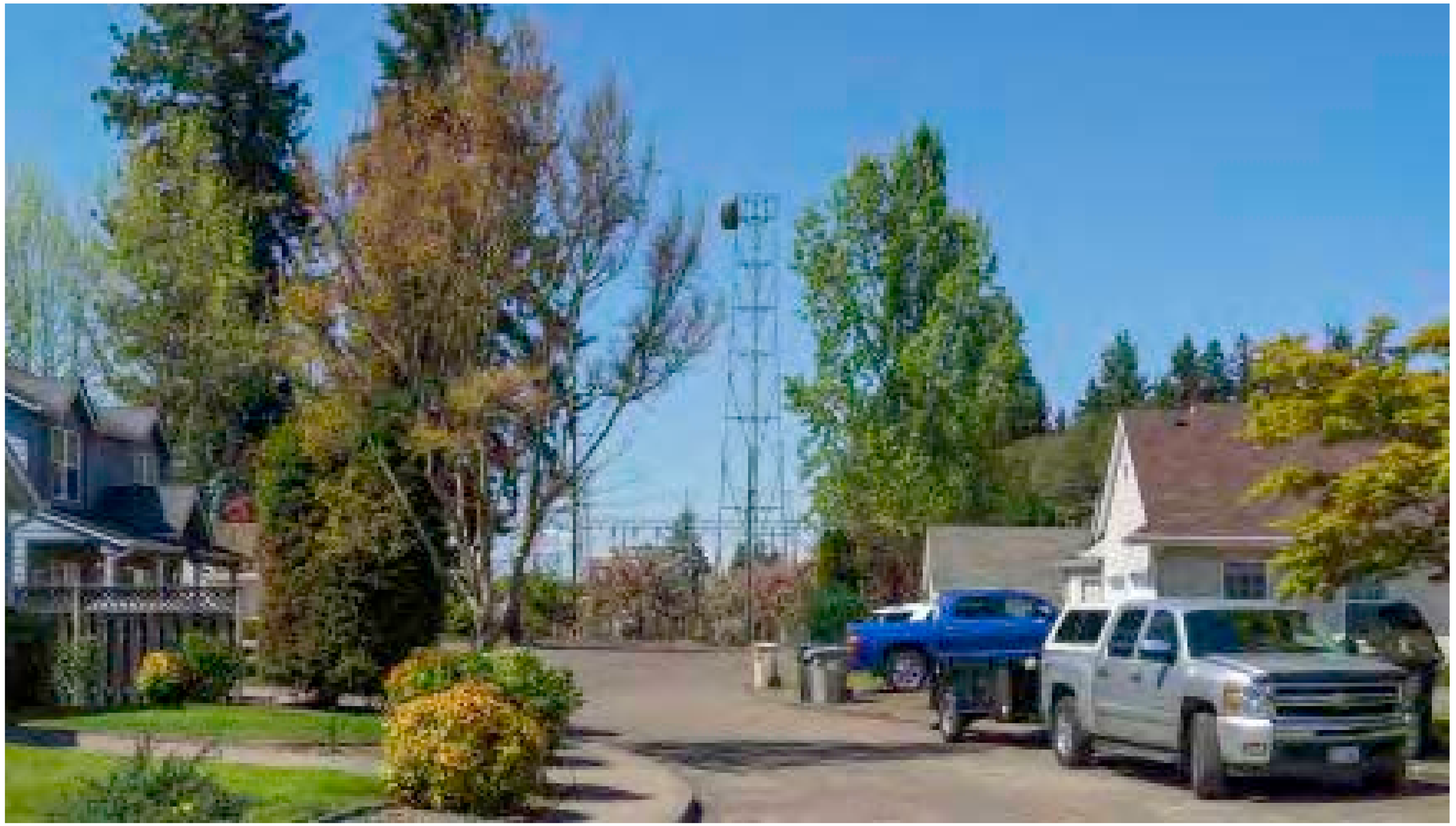
Photograph Information

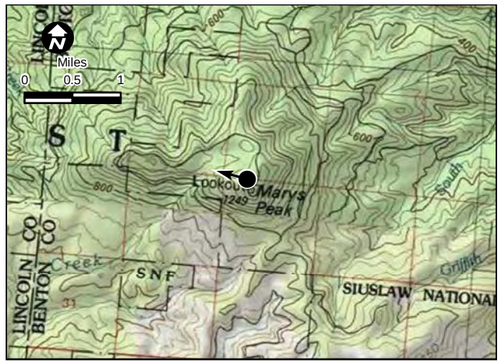
Time of photograph:	1:10 PM
Date of photograph:	4-20-20
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Northwest
Latitude:	44°37’13.80”N
Longitude:	123° 7’30.86”W

Existing Conditions
Key Viewing Area 15
Albany Substation

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020





Viewpoint Location Map Source: ESRI

Legend

Key Observation Point

Photograph Information

Time of photograph:	1:10 PM
Date of photograph:	4-20-20
Weather condition:	Clear
Viewing direction:	Northwest
Latitude:	44°37’13.80”N
Longitude:	123° 7’30.86”W

Alternative 2A and 3B Simulation Key Viewing Area 15 Albany Substation

Marys Peak BPA
Communications Site Project

May 2020

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