PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

BUILDING STRONG®

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT
MOHAVE VALLEY PARK

Public Notice/Application No.: SPL-2000-01767-WHM
Project: MOHAVE VALLEY PARK
Comment Period: June 5, 2014 – July 7, 2014
Project Manager: William Miller; 602-230-6954; William.H.Miller@usace.army.mil

Applicant

Randy Gremlich
Mohave County Flood Control District
3250 E. Kino Avenue
Kingman, Arizona 86402

Contact

Jeremy Casteel
Logan Simpson Design, Inc.
51 West Third Street, Suite 450
Tempe, Arizona 85281

Location

The project is located northeast the town of Fort Mohave, Mohave, AZ (34.9664 N Lat., -114.5506 W Long.) immediately east of Girard Avenue, south of County Road 153 (a.k.a. Boundary Cone Road) in unincorporated Mohave County, Arizona. The washes within the project area flow generally southwest into the Colorado River, a Traditional Navigable Water.

Activity

The Mohave County Flood Control District proposes to construct a 9.49-acre park for the dual purpose of providing recreational opportunities and local flood control. For more information see page 4 of this notice.

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for the activity described herein and shown on the attached drawing(s). We invite you to review today's public notice and provide views on the proposed work. By providing substantive, site-specific comments to the Corps Regulatory Division, you provide information that support the Corps' decision-making process. All comments received during the comment period become part of the record and will be considered in the decision. This permit will be issued, issued with special conditions, or denied under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (22 U.S.C. 1344).

Comments should be mailed to:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
REGULATORY DIVISION
ATTN: William Miller (SPL-2000-01767-WHM)
3636 N CENTRAL AVE SUITE 900
PHOENIX AZ 85012-1939

Alternatively, comments can be sent electronically to: William.H.Miller@usace.army.mil

The mission of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program is to protect the Nation's aquatic resources, while allowing reasonable development through fair, flexible and balanced permit decisions. The Corps evaluates permit applications for essentially all construction activities that occur in the Nation's waters, including wetlands. The Regulatory Program in the Los Angeles District is executed to protect aquatic resources by developing and implementing short- and long-term initiatives to improve regulatory products, processes, program transparency, and customer feedback considering current staffing levels and historical funding trends.

Corps permits are necessary for any work, including construction and dredging, in the Nation's navigable water and their tributary waters. The Corps balances the reasonably foreseeable benefits and detriments of proposed projects, and makes permit decisions that recognize the essential values of the Nation's aquatic ecosystems to the general public, as well as the property rights of private citizens who want to use their land. The Corps strives to make its permit decisions in a timely manner that minimizes impacts to the regulated public.

During the permit process, the Corps considers the views of other Federal, state and local agencies, interest groups, and the general public. The results of this careful public interest review are fair and equitable decisions that allow reasonable use of private property, infrastructure development, and growth of the economy, while offsetting the authorized impacts to the waters of the United States. The permit review process serves to first avoid and then minimize adverse effects of projects on aquatic resources to the maximum practicable extent. Any remaining unavoidable adverse impacts to the aquatic environment are offset by compensatory mitigation requirements, which may include restoration, enhancement, establishment, and/or preservation of aquatic ecosystem system functions and services.

Evaluation Factors

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must

be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Factors that will be considered include conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. In addition, if the proposal would discharge dredged or fill material, the evaluation of the activity will include application of the EPA Guidelines (40 CFR Part 230) as required by Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Preliminary Review of Selected Factors

EIS Determination- A preliminary determination has been made that an environmental impact statement is not required for the proposed work.

Water Quality- The applicant is required to obtain water quality certification, under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. Section 401 requires that any applicant for an individual Section 404 permit provide proof of water quality certification to the Corps of Engineers prior to permit issuance.

Essential Fish Habitat- The Corps of Engineers preliminary determination indicates that the proposed activity would not adversely affect EFH. Therefore, formal consultation under Section 305(b)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) is not required at this time.

Cultural Resources- The latest version of the National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and this site is not listed. This review constitutes the extent of cultural resources investigations by the District Engineer, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources.

Endangered Species- Preliminary determinations indicate that the proposed activity would not affect federally-listed endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat. Therefore, formal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act does not appear to be required at this time.

Public Hearing- Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearing shall state with particularity the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Proposed Activity for Which a Permit is Required

Basic Project Purpose- The basic project purpose comprises the fundamental, essential, or irreducible purpose of the proposed project, and is used by the Corps to determine whether the applicant's project is water dependent (i.e., requires access or proximity to or siting within the special aquatic site to fulfill its basic purpose). Establishment of the basic project purpose is necessary only when the proposed activity would discharge dredged or fill material into a special aquatic site (e.g., wetlands, pool and riffle complex, mudflats, coral reefs). Because no fills are proposed within special aquatic sites, identification of the basic project purpose is not necessary. The project is not water dependent.

Overall Project Purpose- The overall project purpose serves as the basis for the Corps' 404(b)(1) alternatives analysis and is determined by further defining the basic project purpose in a manner that more specifically describes the applicant's goals for the project, and which allows a reasonable range of alternatives to be analyzed. The overall project purpose for the proposed project is to provide local flood risk management as well as recreational opportunities to the adjacent community.

Additional Project Information

In order to increase regional recreational opportunities and to address current flooding issues affecting downstream infrastructure, The Mohave County Flood Control District (District) is proposing to construct Mohave Valley Park. Under this project, Mohave County proposes to develop a 9.49-acre park within Mohave County’s 40-acre parcel identified under a Recreation and Public Purposes lease from the BLM Lake Havasu Field Office. Activities under this project include improvements to create playing fields, an access road, and parking areas as part of Mohave County’s commitment to provide increased recreational infrastructure. The new facility would also include the construction of a concrete drainage channel and one of the playing fields would serve as a detention basin facility capable of detouring and managing the release of flows within the project area. Improvements proposed would be consistent with the associated Plan of Development with BLM and stipulations of the R&PP lease. Once complete, Mohave Valley Park will not only serve the needs of the current local population, but will also be capable of expanding as the expected growth of the region requires.

The proposed project is designed to redirect upstream stormwater flows by collecting flows in a drainage channel on the north edge of the park that will discharge into a jurisdictional wash to the southwest of the project area. During large storm events, flows that exceed the capacity of the channel will be collected in the detention basin after they overtop a weir on the north side of the detention basin which will separate the channel and detention basin. During times without high stormwater flows, the detention basin will provide a new playing field for the park. The remaining project area will be recontoured to provide an additional playing field and two parking areas (Parking Area Nos. 1 and 2) for park visitors. A

new access road that will connect to Girard Avenue will be constructed along the southern boundary of the project area.

Specifically, the proposed project includes the following:

- Construction of an earthen berm along the northern property line to redirect upstream flows to the new concrete channel;
- Construction of an approximately 200-foot by 400-foot detention basin developed with turf and irrigation in order to also serve as playing field except during large stormwater flow events;
- Construction of a 13.5-foot-wide air-blown mortar concrete channel along the northern boundary of the project area that will transition into a 17-foot-wide graded earthen channel along the western boundary;
- Installation of a 8-inch by 18-inch by 7-foot cut-off wall at the downstream end of the concrete channel to dissipate flows;
- Construction of a 100-foot-long weir along the southern edge of the concrete channel;
- Construction of a playing field with;
- Installation of turf and irrigation;
- Construction of two graded parking areas;
- Construction of a 24-foot-wide concrete access road from Girard Avenue;
- Striping and signing associated with the parking and roadway improvements.

The earthen berm that will be constructed along the northern project boundary will be 12 feet wide with a 2:1 slope, and will transition to a 13.5-foot-wide air-blown mortar concrete drainage channel with 1.5:1 slopes. The berm and concrete channel will direct flows to the west, where the concrete channel will transition into a 17-foot-wide earthen drainage channel. Stormwater will flow south through the earthen drainage channel, then discharge into Wash 16 to the southwest of the project area. Within the upstream section of the concrete channel from Station No. 11+18.13 to Station No. 12+18.13, a 100-foot-long weir will be constructed along the southern edge of the channel at an elevation of 1.4 feet above the channel flow line. Between Station No. 10+08.33 and Station No. 13+50 of the concrete channel, three-inch weep holes will drain flows to the adjacent detention basin. To dissipate flows prior to entering the earthen portion of the channel, an 8-inch by 18-inch by 7-foot cut-off wall will be installed at the downstream end of the concrete channel. Once constructed, the detention basin will also provide a playing field for recreational purposes. The remaining portions of the project area will be developed to provide an additional playing field and two parking areas (Parking Area Nos. 1 and 2) for park visitors. These areas will be at a 2 percent grade so that surface flows are directed into the new detention basin. Within the areas of the proposed playing fields, turf and irrigation will be installed. The portions of washes not permanently impacted would be recontoured to pre-construction grade conditions following the completion of construction activities wherever practicable.

The proposed project would require dredge and fill within designated “waters of the United States” (Waters) for the construction of the flood control features and recreational components of the proposed Mohave Valley Park. The Preliminary Jurisdictional Delineation (PJD) for this project identified 14 drainage features as Waters, 9 of which will be impacted by dredge and fill activities for the current project. The proposed project will permanently

impact a total of 1.012 acres of Waters at those 9 washes. Of this total, approximately 0.125 acre of permanent impacts will occur at Wash 10 downstream of the project area due to flows being redirected or detained by the project. Approximately 0.062 acre of temporary disturbance to Waters will occur due to construction activities. No special aquatic sites would be impacted. Approximately 200 cubic yards of excavation will occur within Waters and approximately 1,750 cubic yards of earthen material will be placed within Waters.

Proposed Mitigation– The proposed mitigation may change as a result of comments received in response to this public notice, the applicant's response to those comments, and/or the need for the project to comply with the 404(b)(1) Guidelines. In consideration of the above, the proposed project would permanently impact approximately 1.012 acres of ephemeral washes. The applicant proposes to contribute to an in-lieu fee mitigation fund to compensate for the loss of waters of the U.S.

Proposed Special Conditions

No special conditions have been proposed at this time.

For additional information please call William Miller of my staff at 602-230-6954 or via e-mail at William.H.Miller@usace.army.mil . This public notice is issued by the Chief, Regulatory Division.

Regulatory Program Goals:

- To provide strong protection of the nation's aquatic environment, including wetlands.
- To ensure the Corps provides the regulated public with fair and reasonable decisions.
- To enhance the efficiency of the Corps' administration of its regulatory program.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
3636 N CENTRAL AVE SUITE 900
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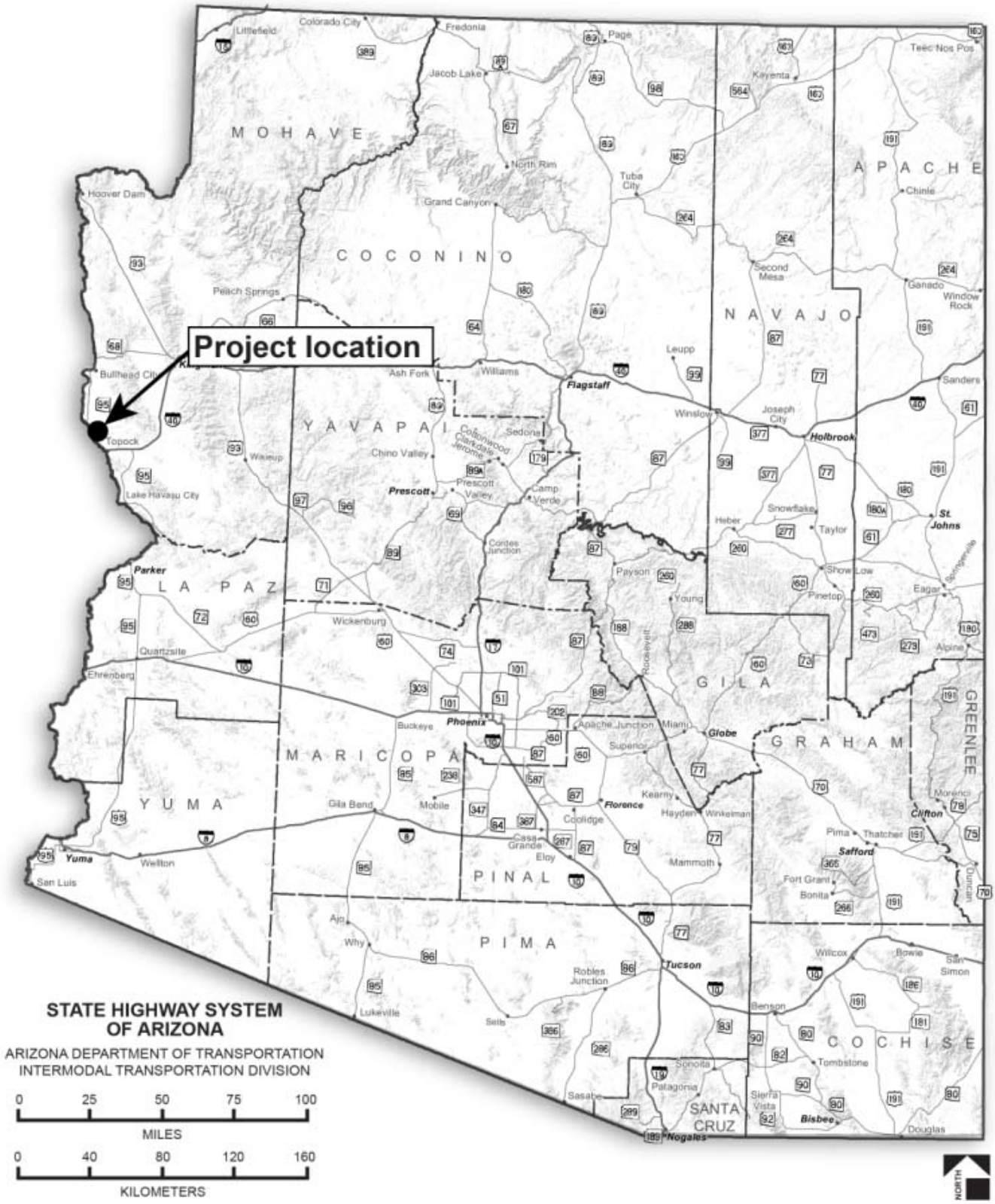

Figure 1. Project location

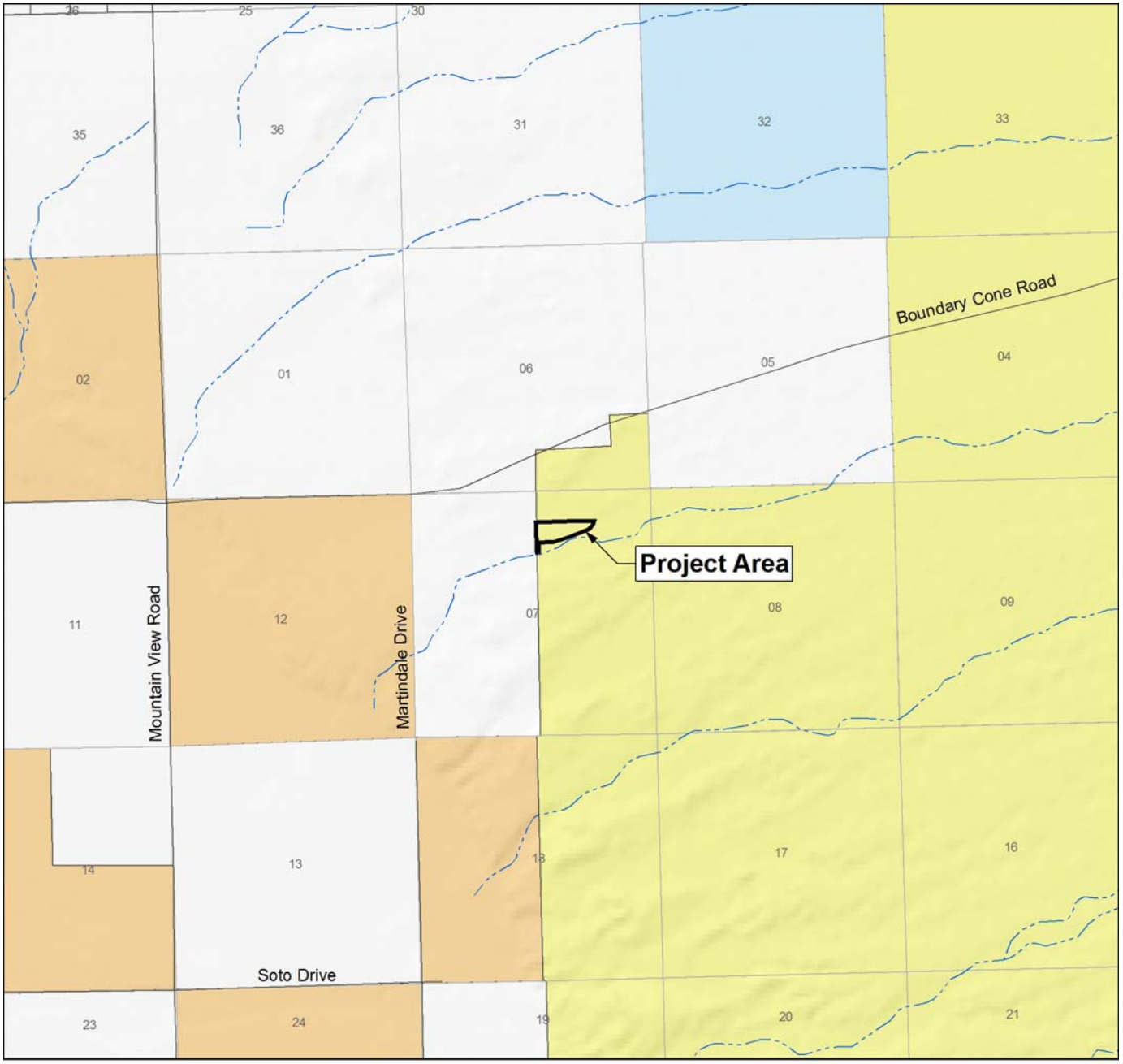

Figure 2. Land ownership

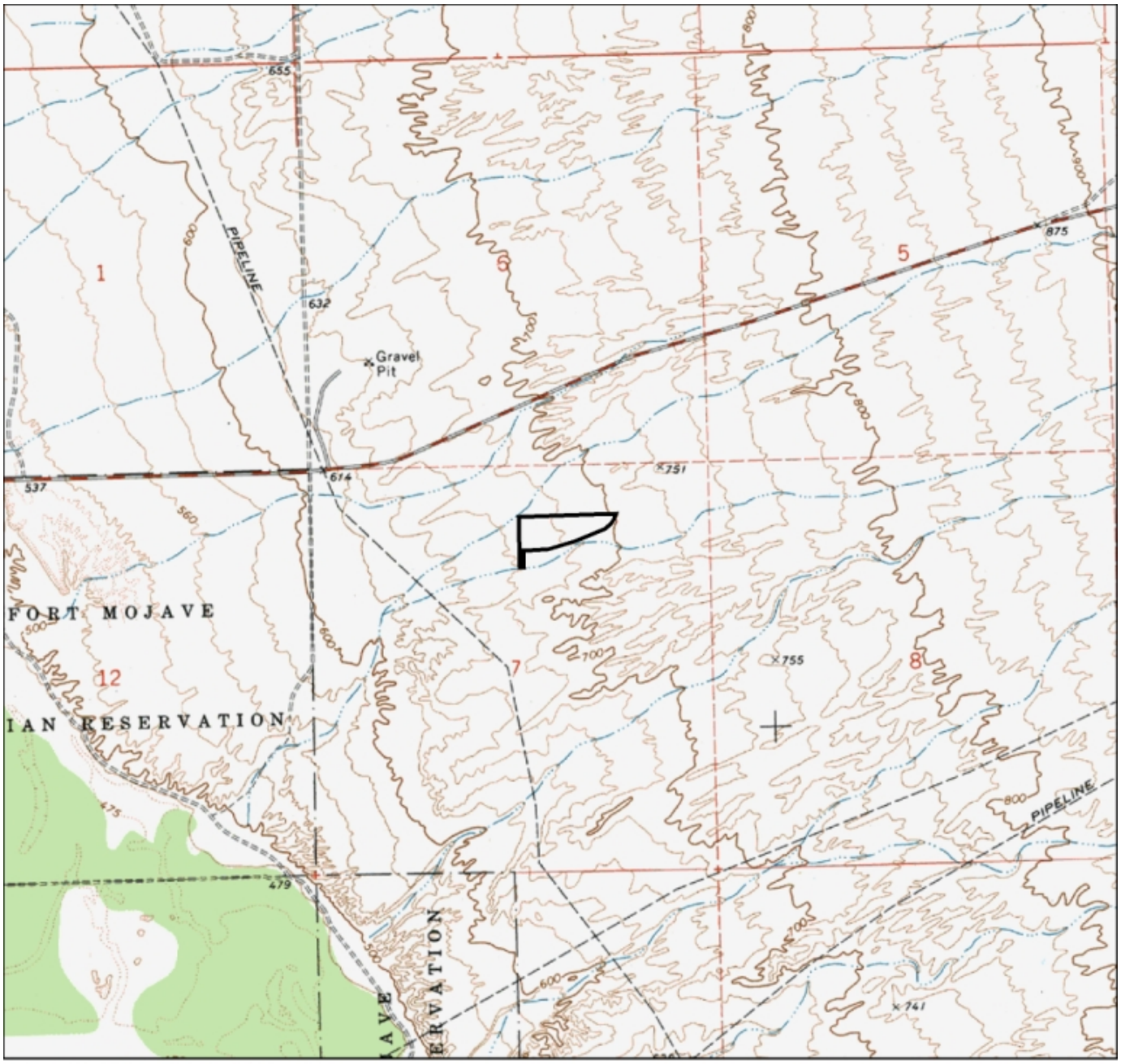

Figure 3. Topographic map

Figure 4. Project area